

FAIRY TAIL

31



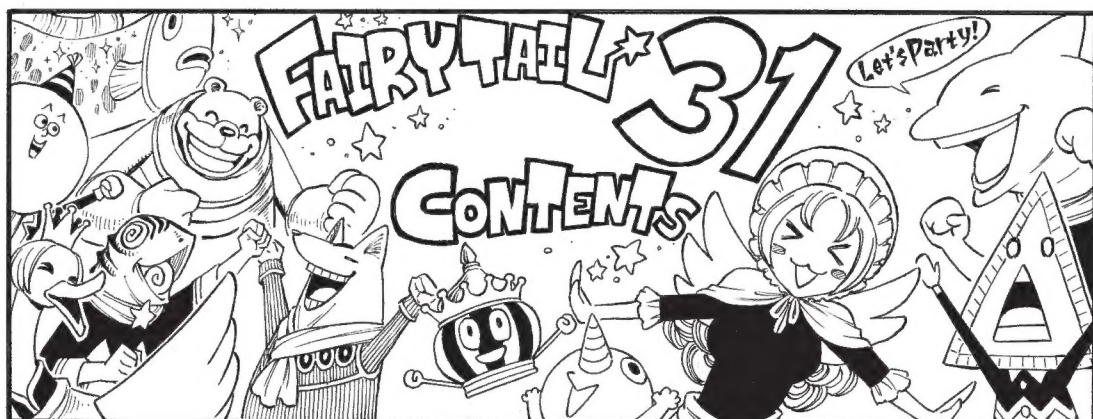
Hiro Mashima
Creator of Rave Master

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル



HIRO MASHIMA



Chapter 258: Saber Tooth ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 3

Chapter 259: Porlyusica ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 27

Chapter 260: And We're Going to Aim for the Top ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 51

Chapter 261: The One Magic ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 71

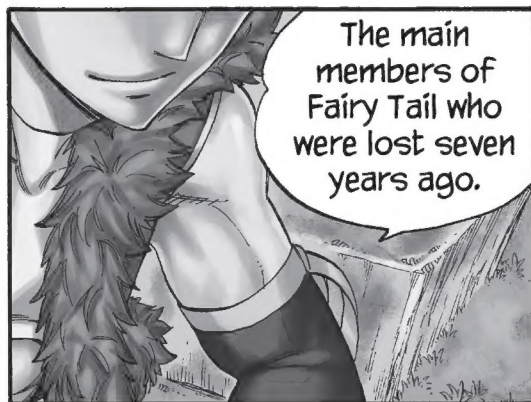
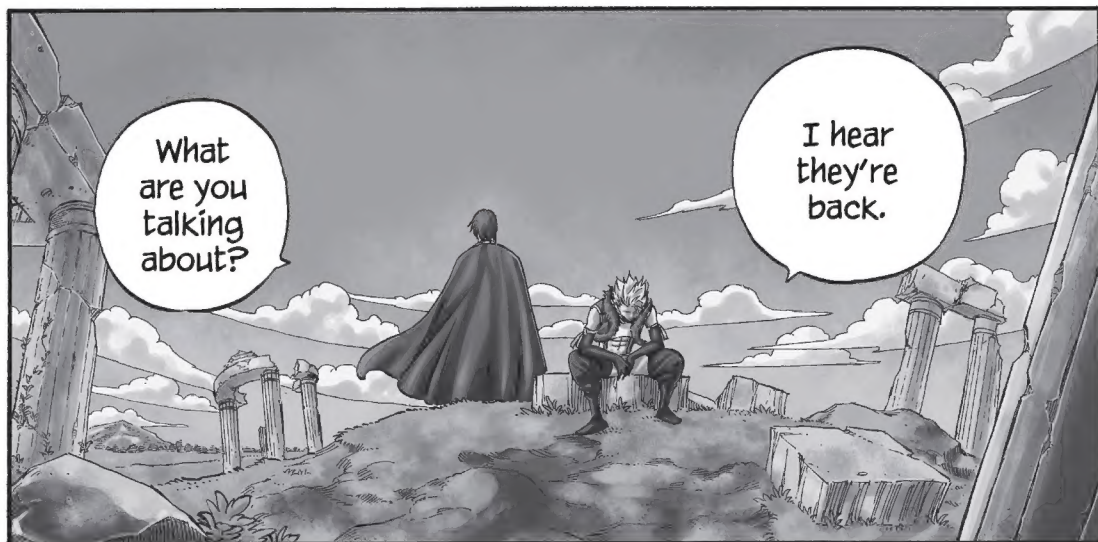
Chapter 262: Song of the Celestials ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 91

Chapter 263: Crime Sorcière ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 111

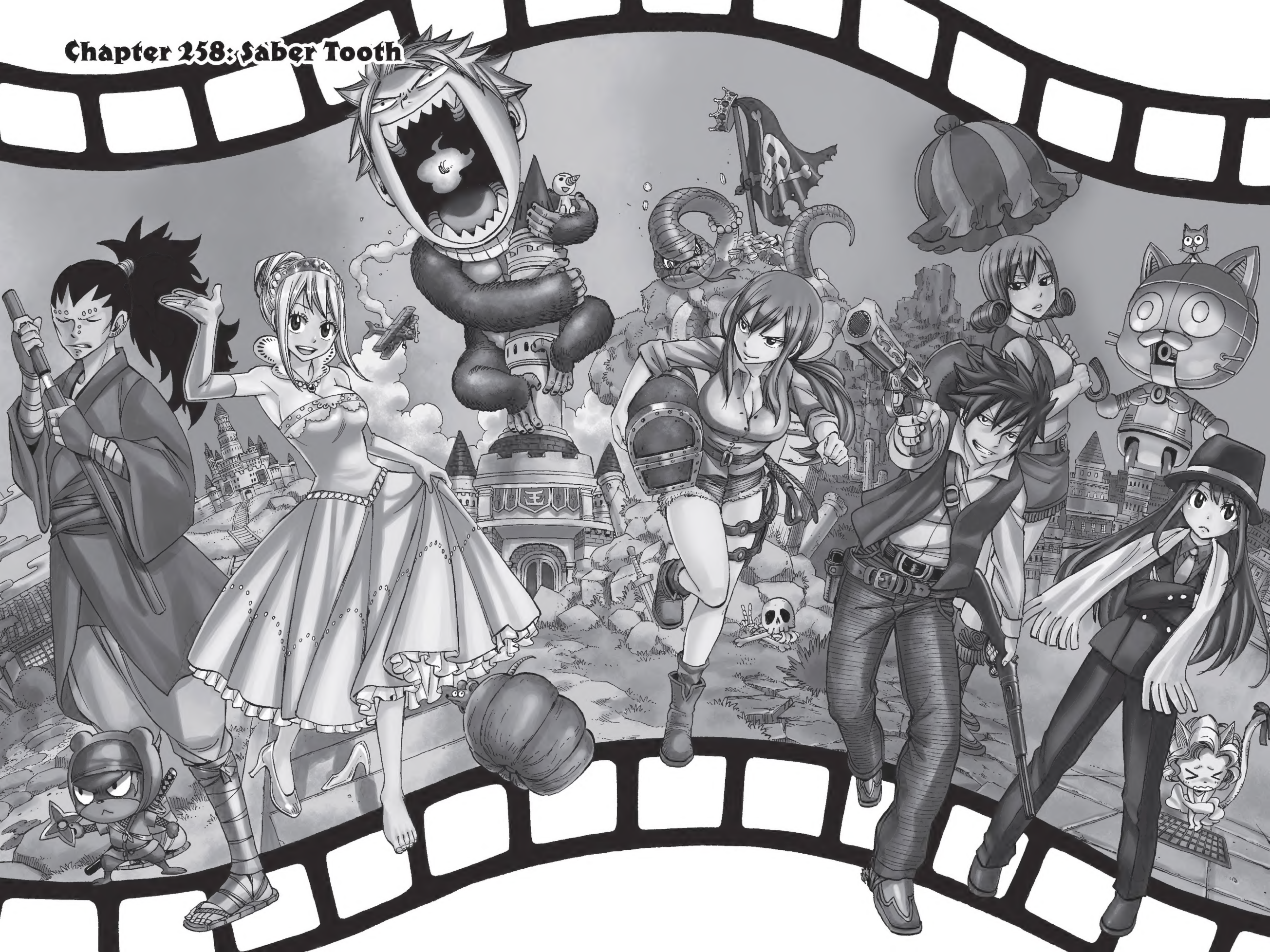
Chapter 264: Only the Amount of Time Lost ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 131

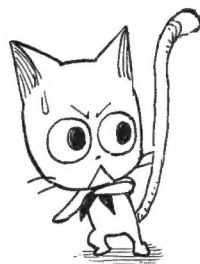
Chapter 265: Crocus, The Capital of Blooming Flowers ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 151

Chapter 266: Sky Labyrinth ⇄ ⇄ ⇄ 171



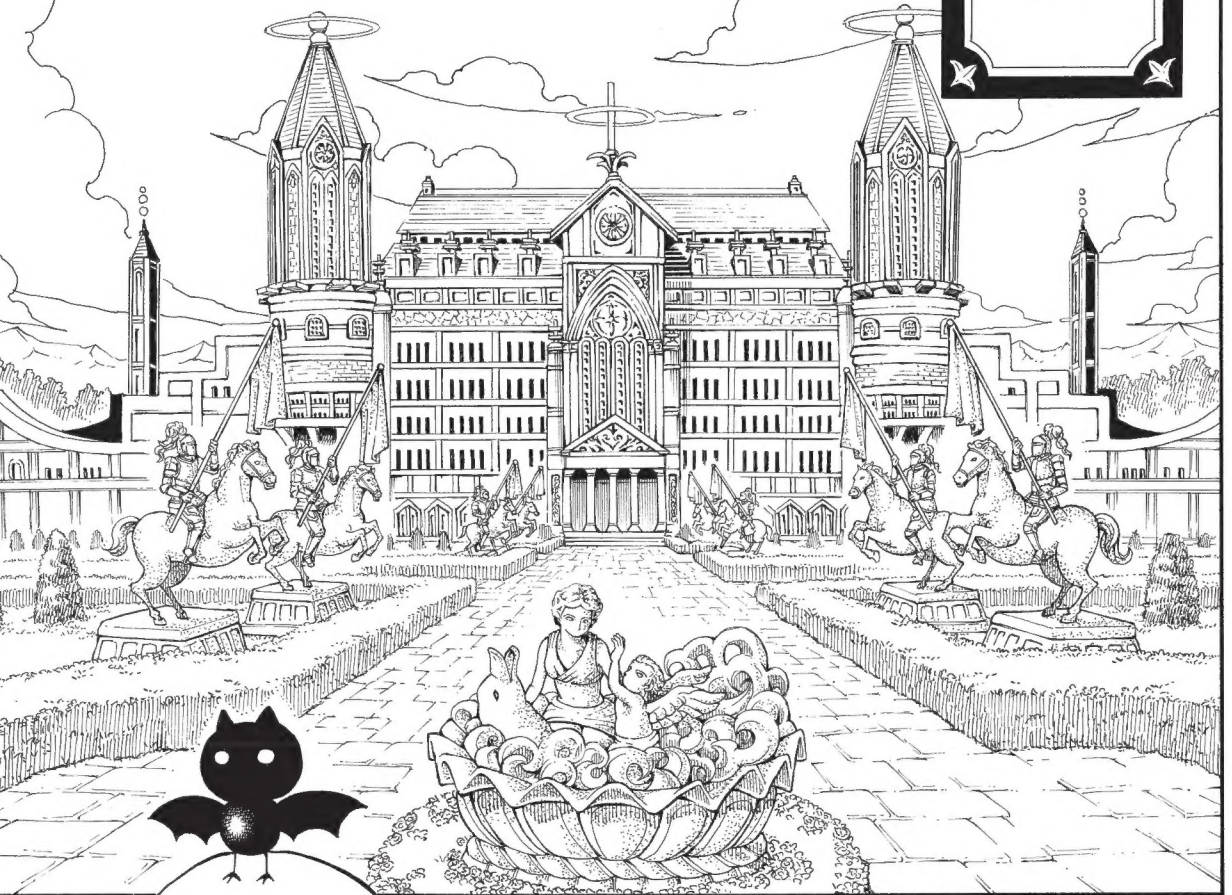
Chapter 258: Saber Tooth





 **FAIRYTAIL**

The
Magic
Council,
Era.



More
importantly,
have you
heard the
news yet?

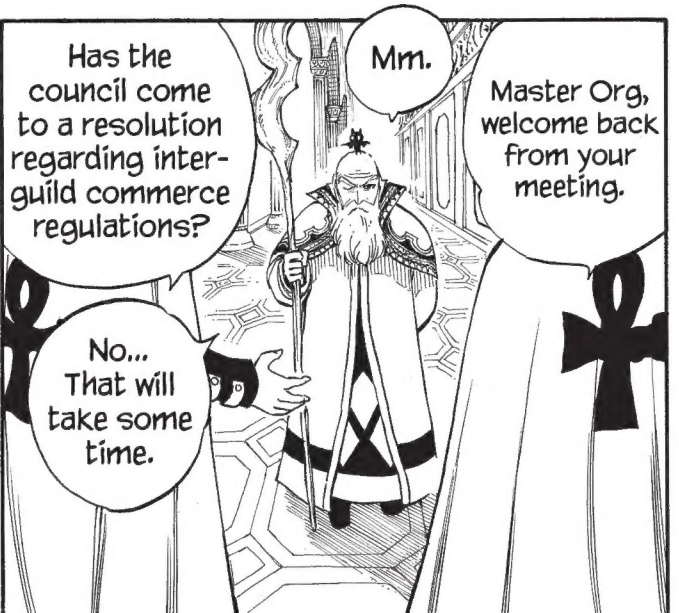
**MAGIC
COUNCIL**
ELDER ORG

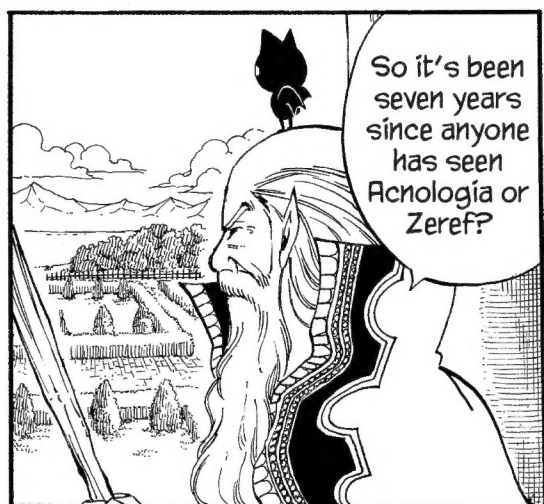
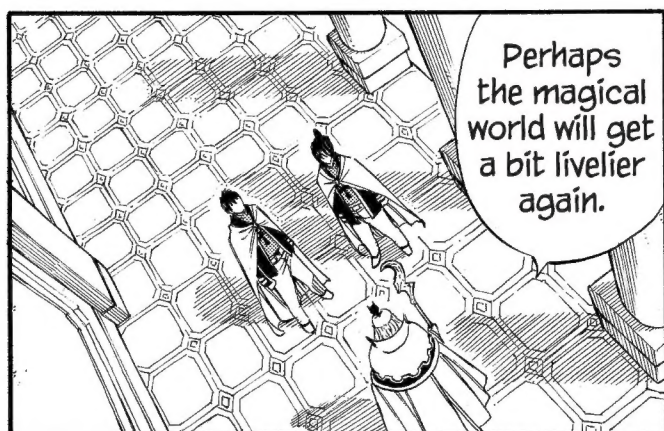
Has the
council come
to a resolution
regarding inter-
guild commerce
regulations?

No...
That will
take some
time.

Mm.

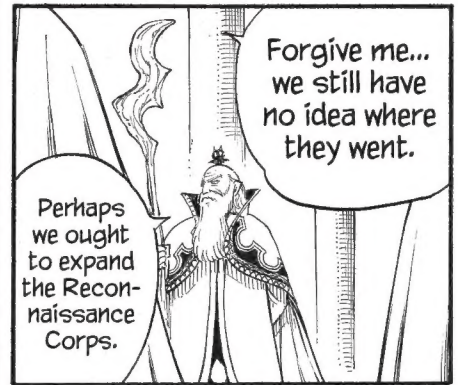
Master Org,
welcome back
from your
meeting.







These seven years have been too quiet.



Forgive me... we still have no idea where they went.

Perhaps we ought to expand the Reconnaissance Corps.



Same for what's left of Grimoire Heart.

None have any information on Zeref or Acnologia.

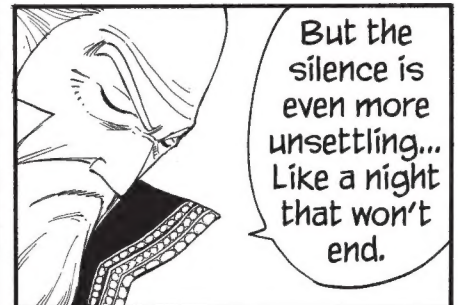
We've been keeping an eye on the progress of Saber Tooth...

...but Tartarus has kept a low profile.

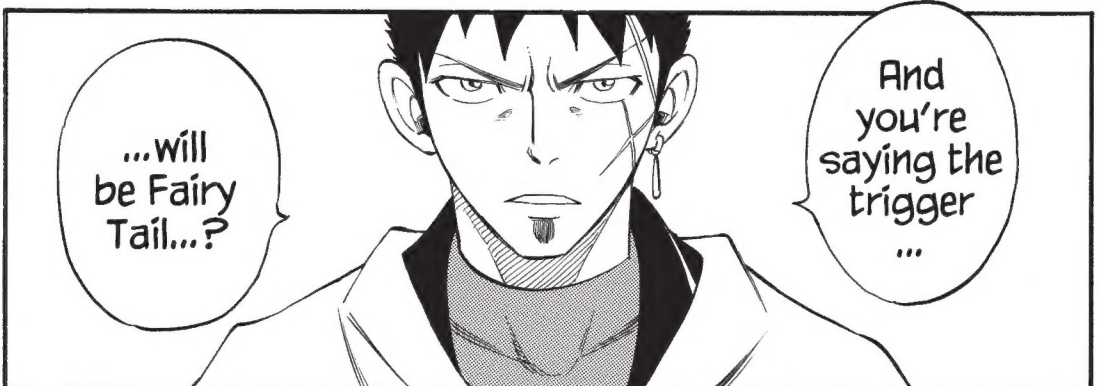


Perhaps it will signal a new dawn for the magical world.

I think it's about time for daybreak.



But the silence is even more unsettling... Like a night that won't end.



...will be Fairy Tail...?

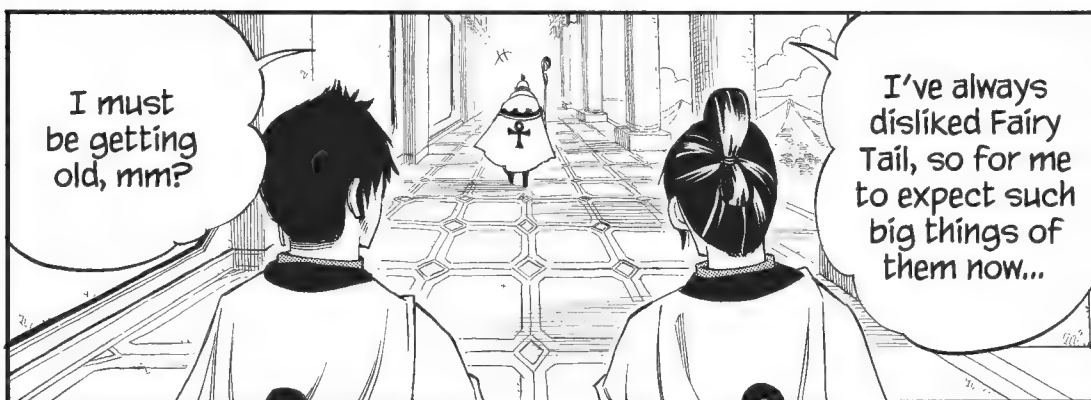
And you're saying the trigger ...



Fwah
ha ha
ha!

?!

?!



I must
be getting
old, mm?

I've always
disliked Fairy
Tail, so for me
to expect such
big things of
them now...



It's been two
weeks since
we came home
from Sirius
Island.



Of course,
Weekly
Sorcerer was
quick to send
a reporter.



Our
return is
the talk of
the whole
country...

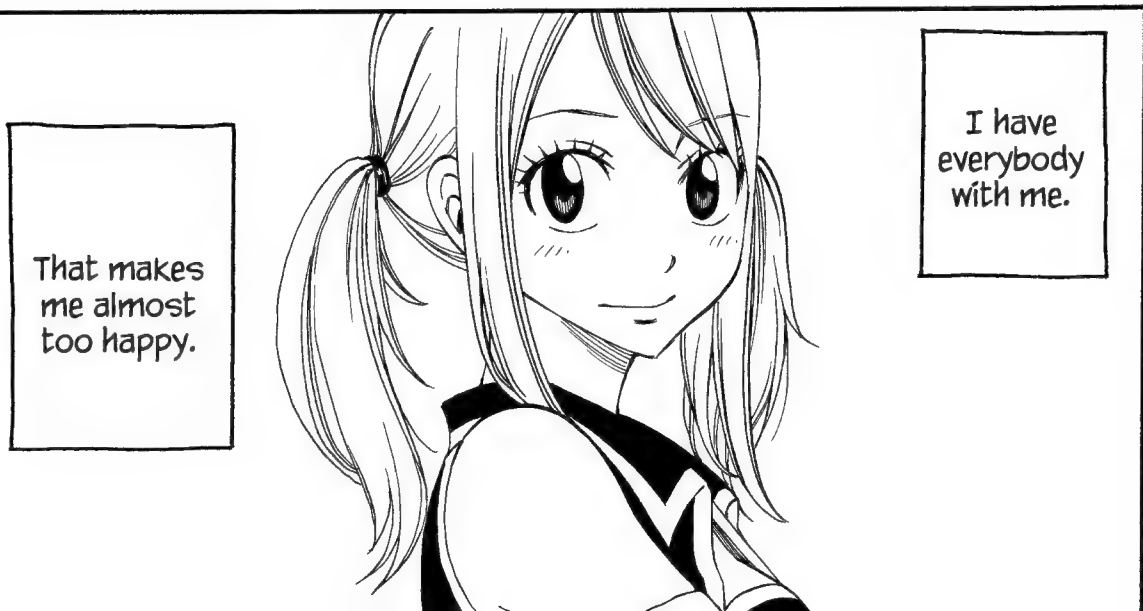
No... the
whole
conti-
nent.



And, little by
little, I'm
recovering
from the
news about
my father.



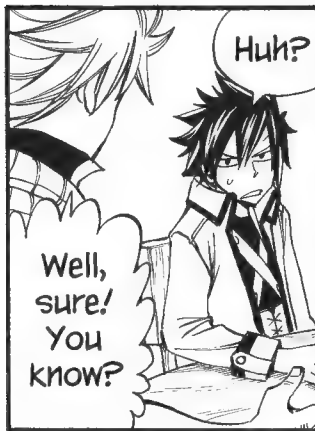
Everyone
treats each
day like a
festival,
making up
for seven
years of
lost time.

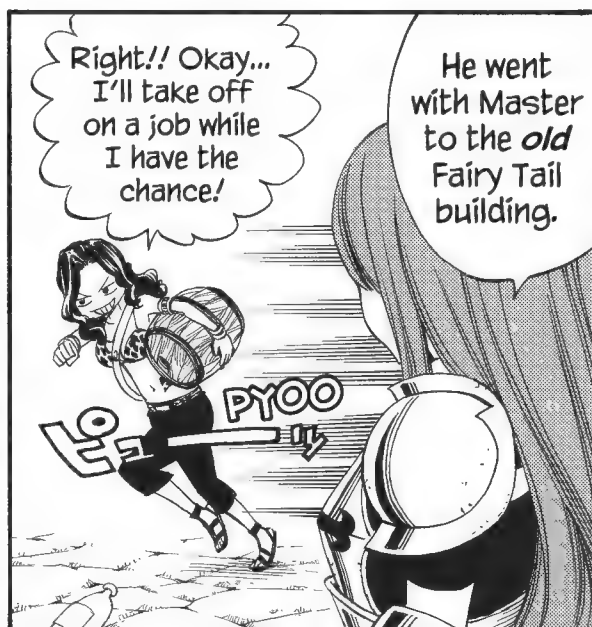
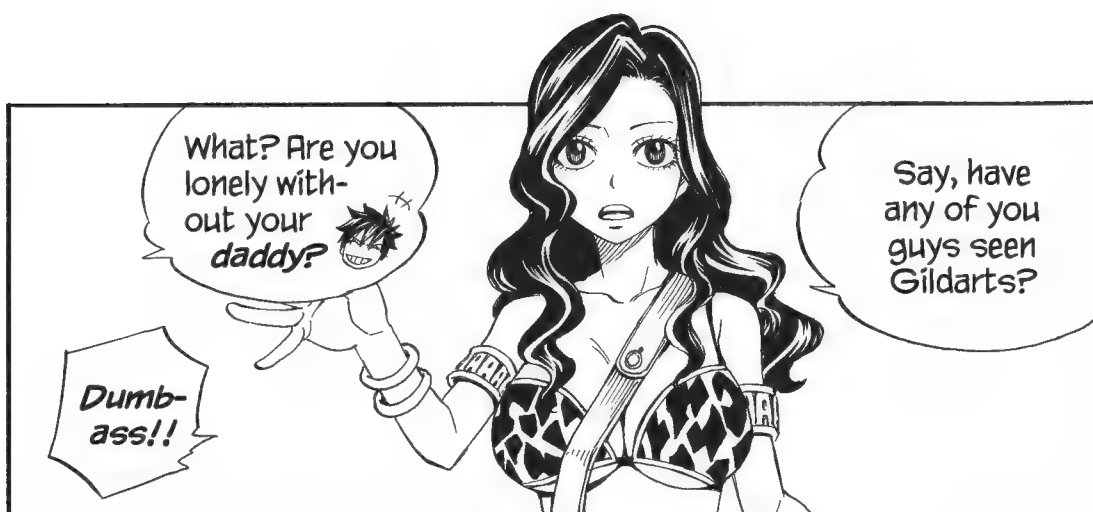


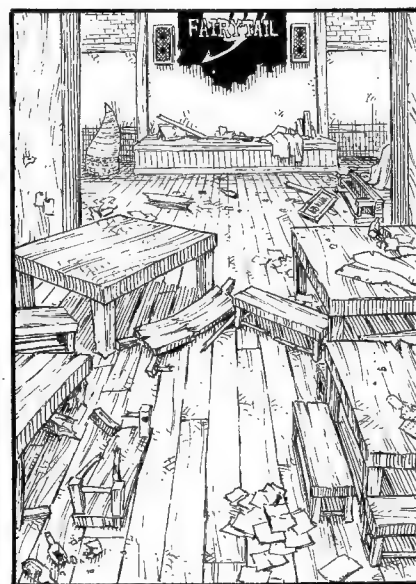
That makes
me almost
too happy.

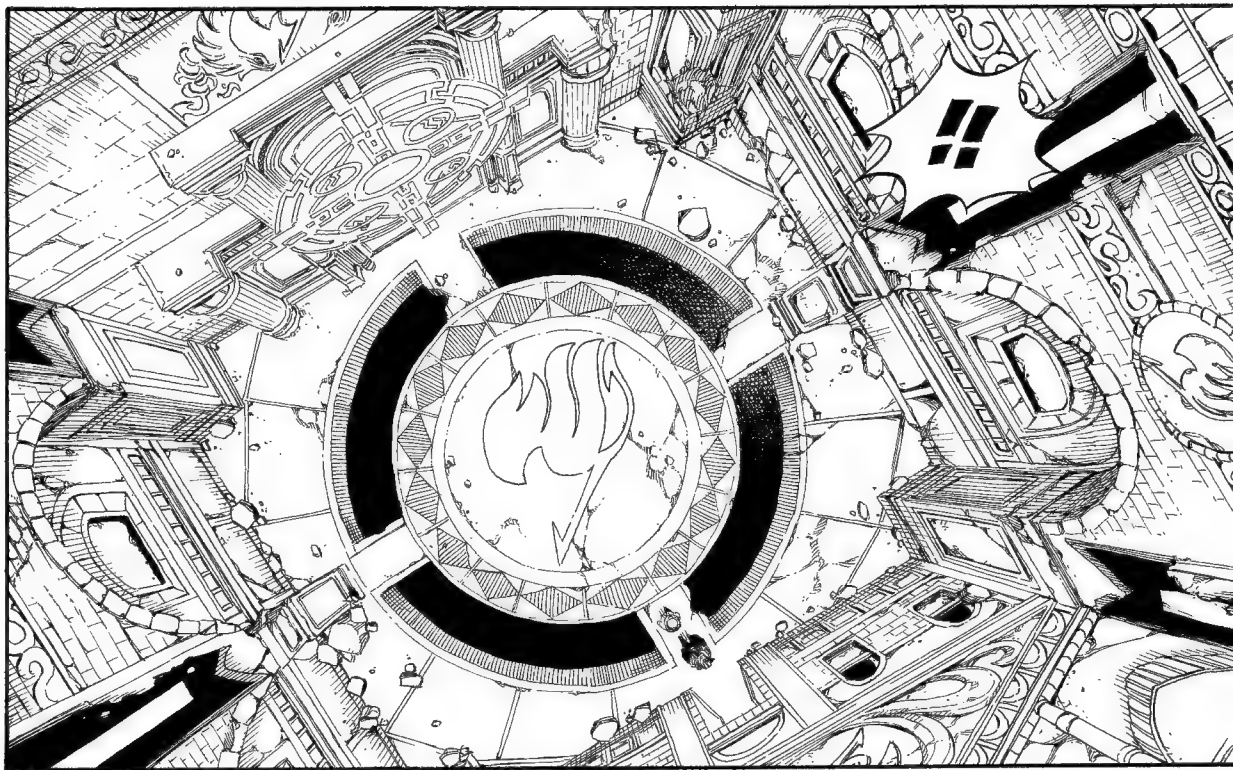
I have
everybody
with me.

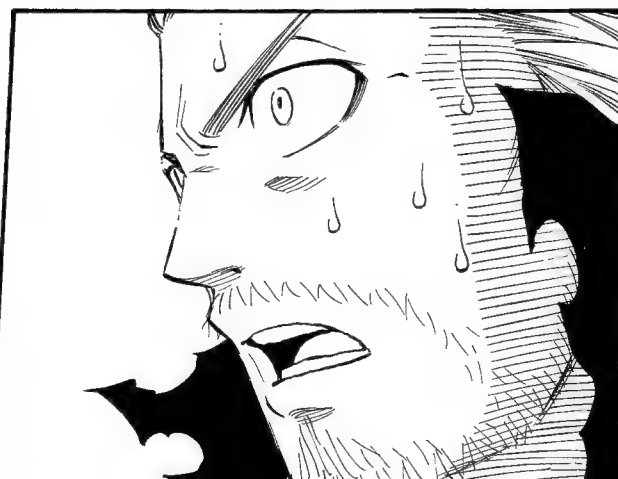
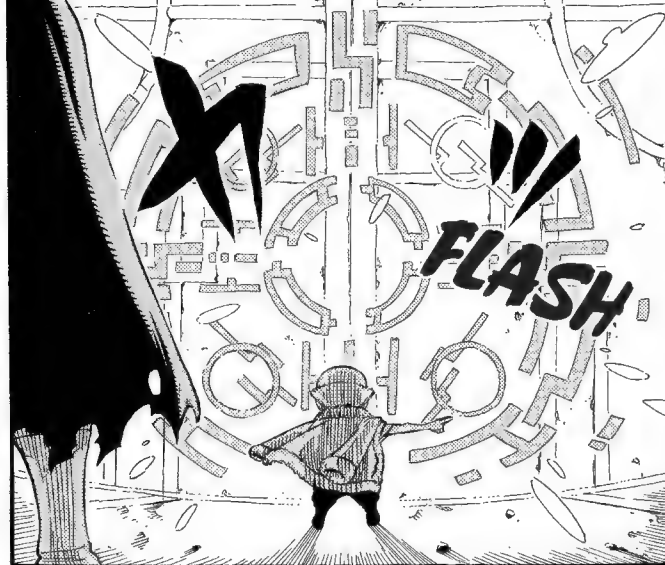








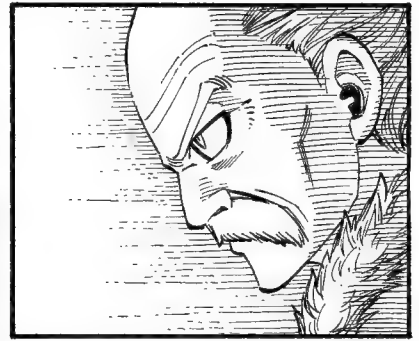
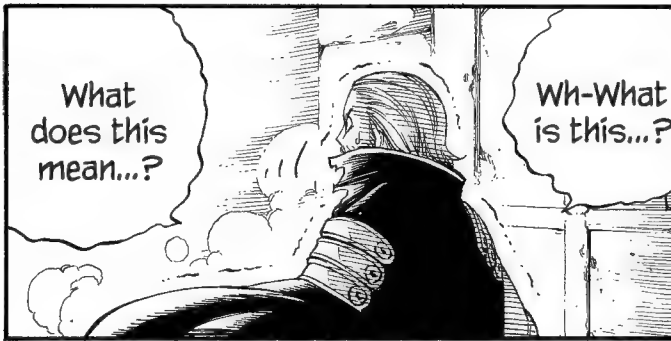




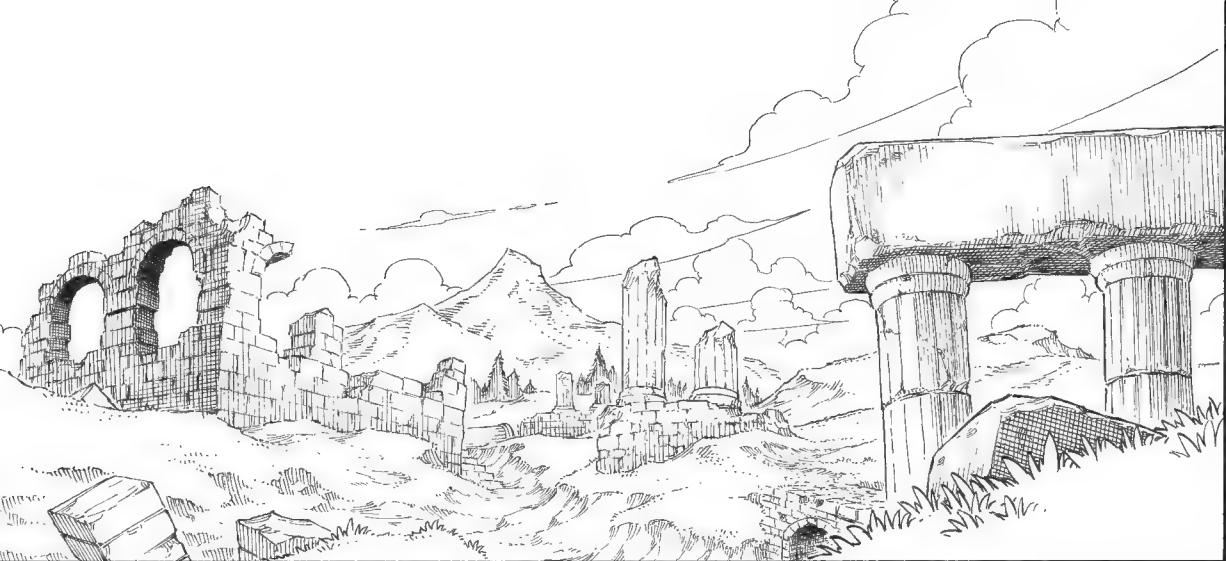


The Lumen Histoire!









Don't dredge up the past, Sting.

The path we're on didn't lead to them.



It takes you back, doesn't it? I mean, seven years ago, we were barely this tall.

Oh, yeah! You were more a Gajeel guy, huh? Gajeel was pretty scary.



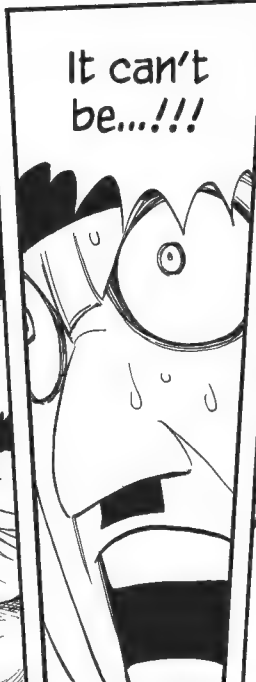
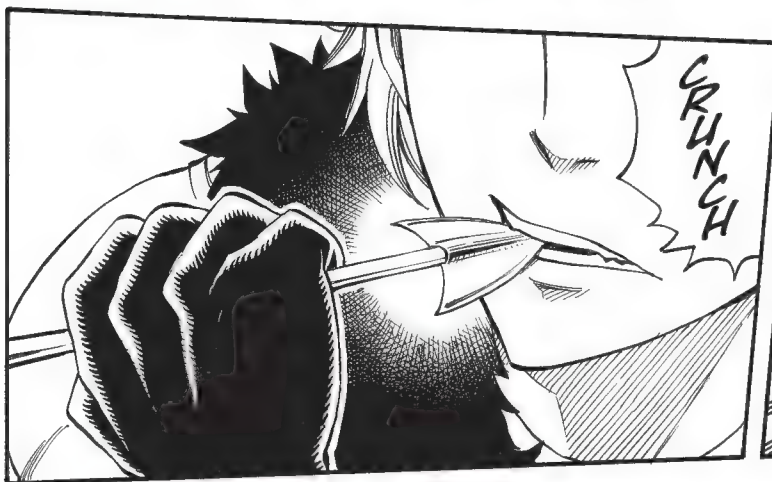
Die
!!!!



Got you!!!!

!!

MOO







Sting the
White Dragon,
and Rogue
the Shadow
Dragon!!!

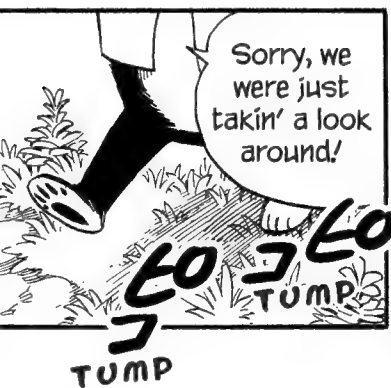
The
dragon
slayer
duo!!!!

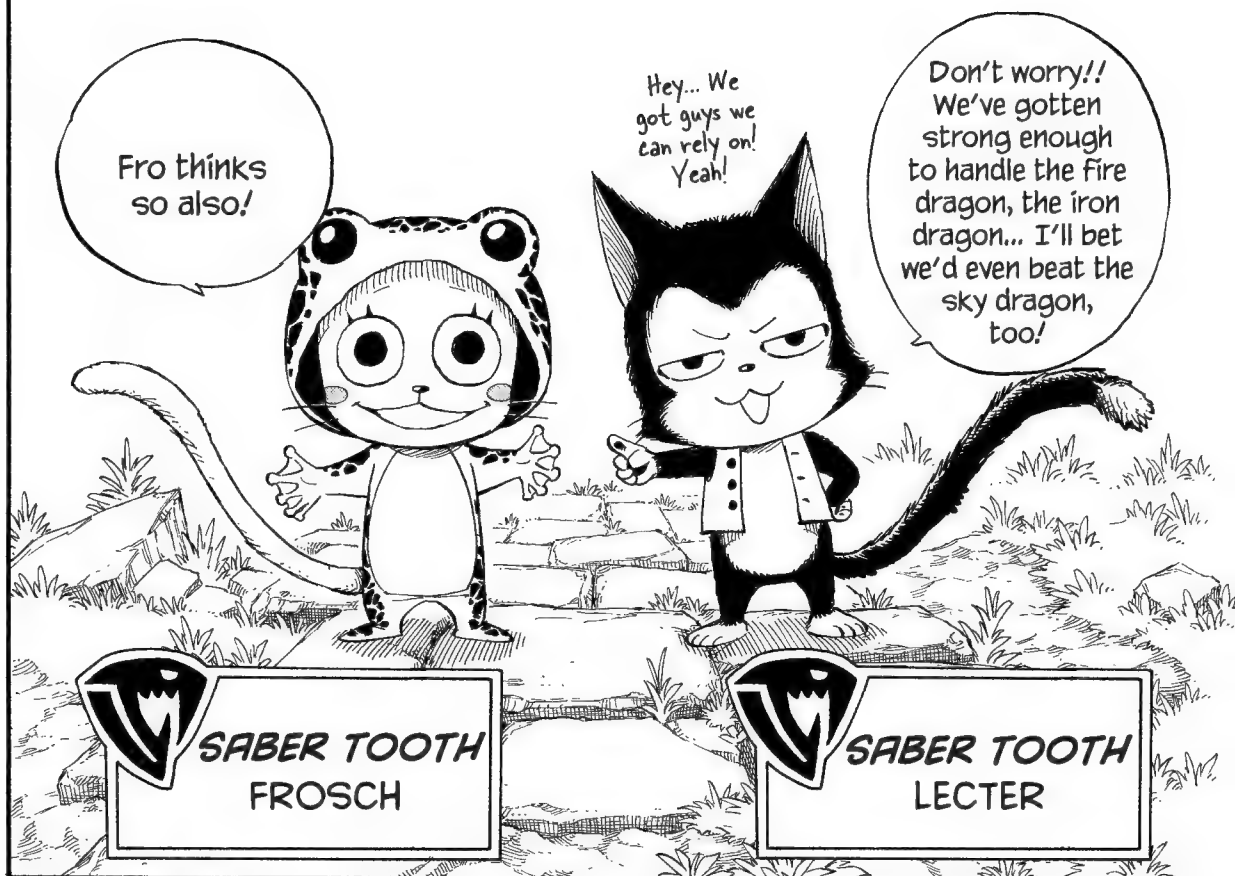
**SABER
TOOTH**

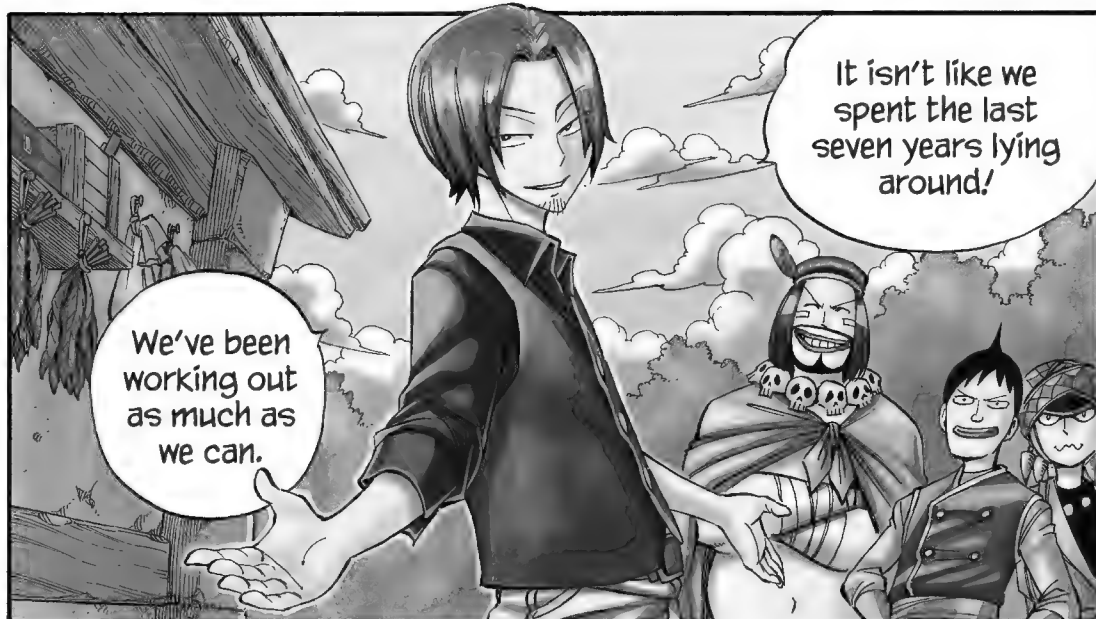
ROGUE CHENEY

**SABER
TOOTH**

STING EUCLIFFE











 **FAIRYTAIL**





Now
burn
up!!!!



KARYŪ
NO*...



KOFF
KOFF

WAH!

Natsu,
hang in
there!

Wait a
minute
...

*Fire Dragon's



*Iron Fist

SAND
WALL
!!!!

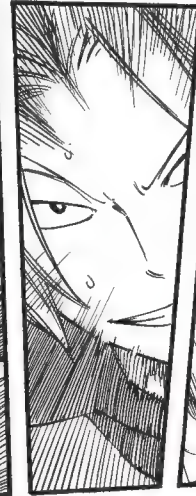
ZUGAAASSH

BOFF

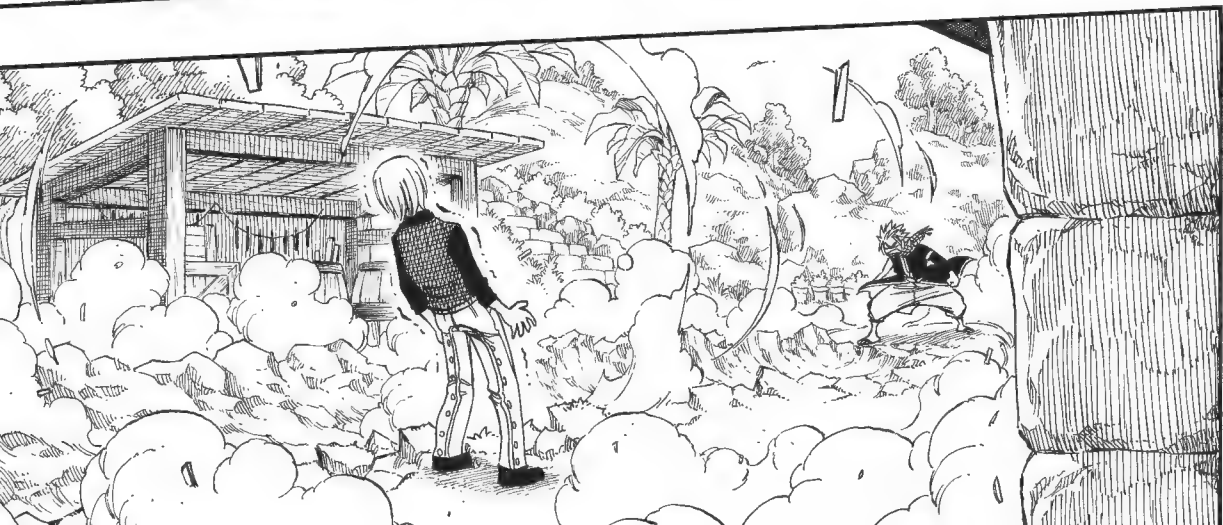
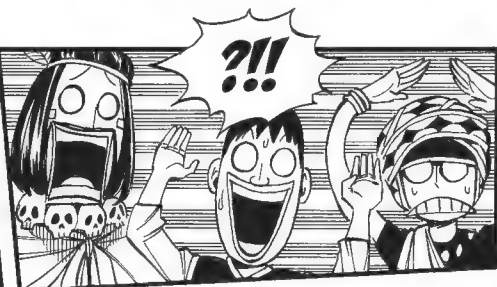
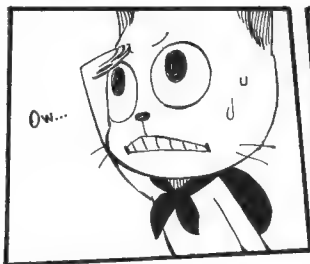
...
TEKKEN*
!!!!



*Thunder-Fire Dragon Mode











...That's true.

Master and the others *did* solve it that way, though.



Those can't be solved with power alone.

Well, there were money problems too.

That may be true, but...



But if he'd had that kind of power, then the guild wouldn't have let Ogre push them around.



Leave aside the guys who are already monsters like Gildarts and Laxus...

...and the power that we have at the moment hasn't kept pace with the times.



Still, we've got a bigger problem than I figured.



Hmm...

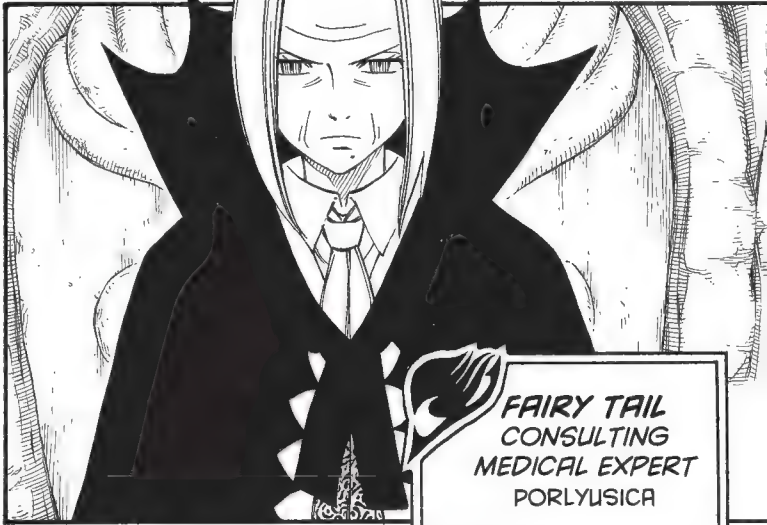
I wonder if there is some way we can raise our magical abilities in one big shot.

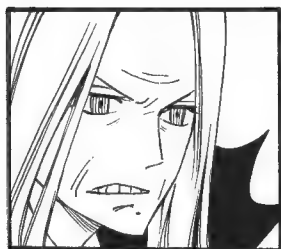


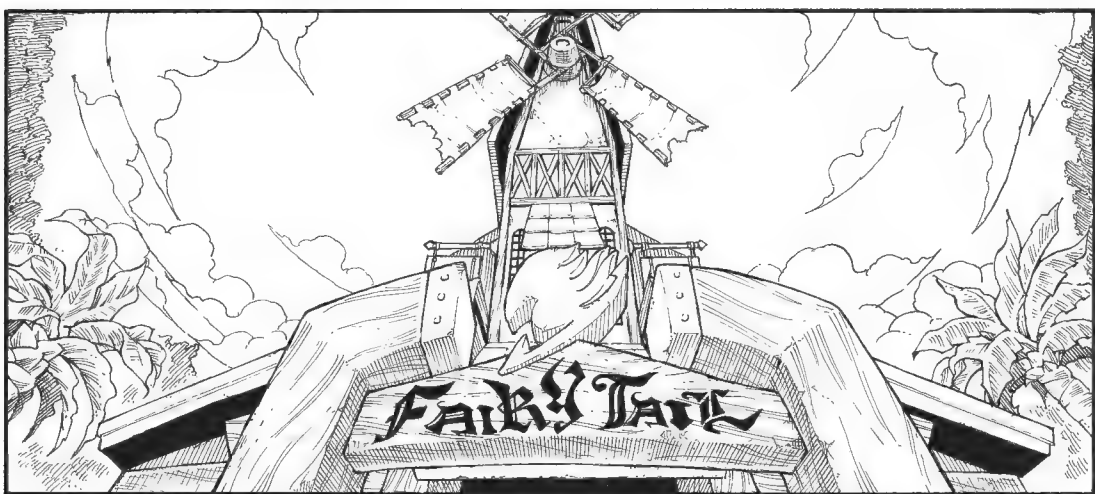
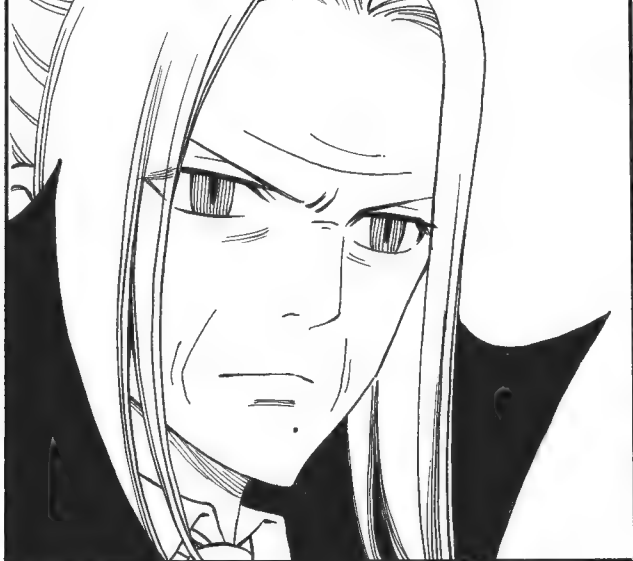
So what she said *really was* flattery?!!

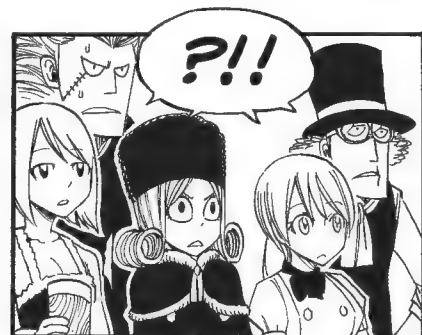
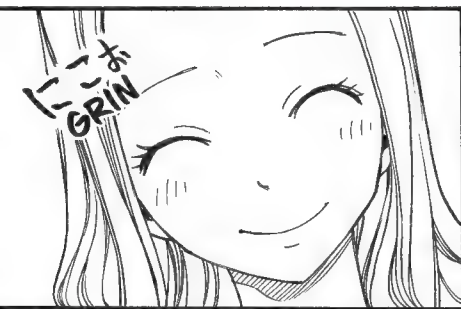
Yeah, *that* Max.

It's true... Here Natsu had a hard time with somebody like Max.

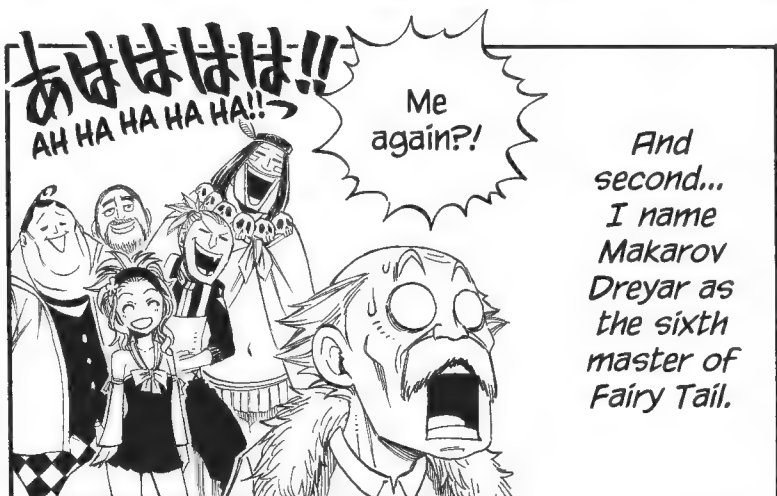








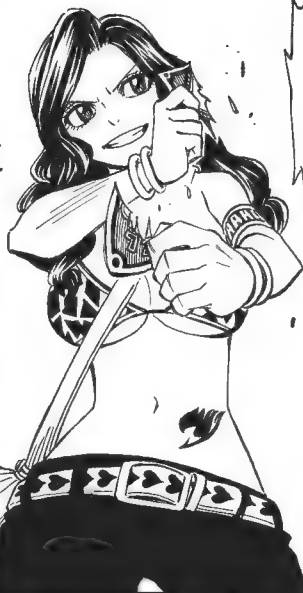




Come on, old guy! I told you that I want us to be the way we always were!



Cana !!



RIP

No way!

It's connected to a card I've got, and I'll be right there—

Fairy Tail is my home.

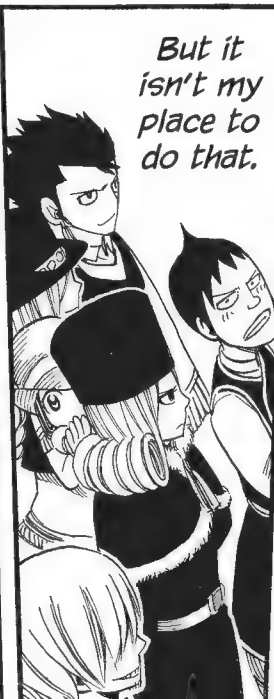
So I'll be back.



It's yours.



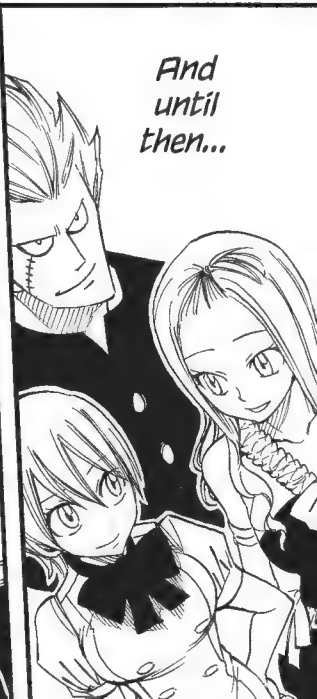
But it isn't my place to do that.



...I'll be hoping that Fairy Tail can become the No. 1 guild in Fiore again.



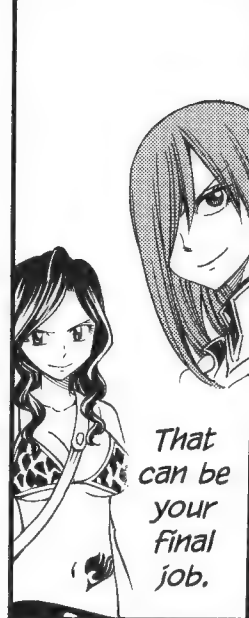
And until then...





KLNCH

To make
Fairy Tail
once again
the greatest
guild in
Fiore!!!



That
can be
your
final
job.



Master...



After this,
I'll never
leave the
master's
seat to
anyone!!!!

What do
you mean,
"Final,"
you idiot
!!!!



Hmmm
...

ahahahaha!!

Well... It
looks like
that's all
settled.

What a
man!!

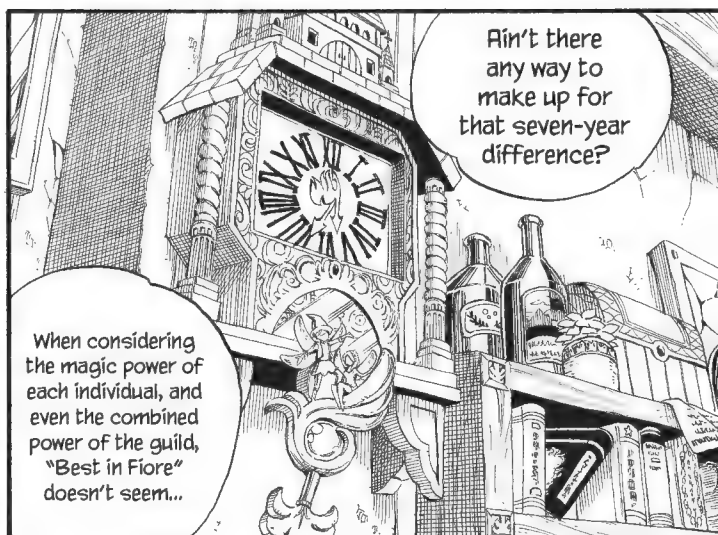
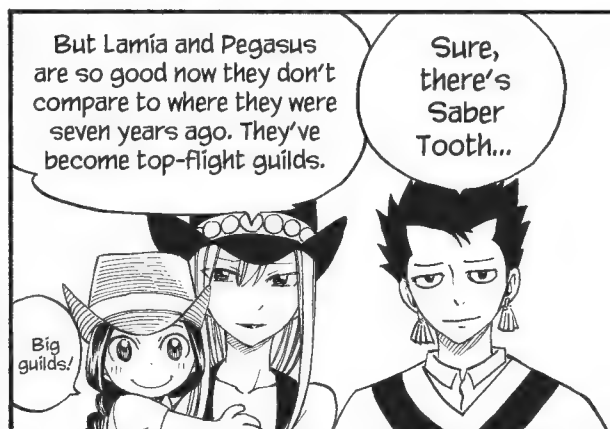
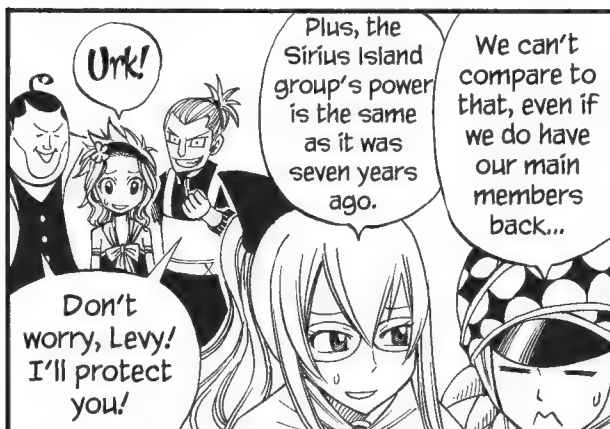
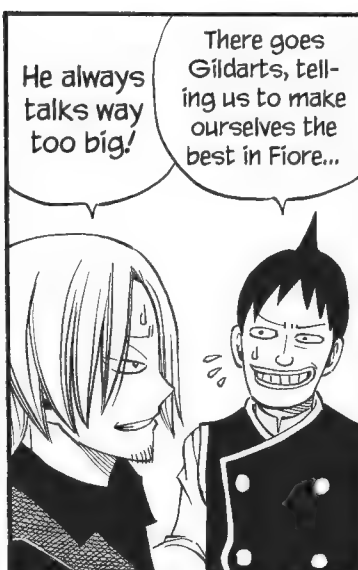
Look at
him! He's
annoyed
now!

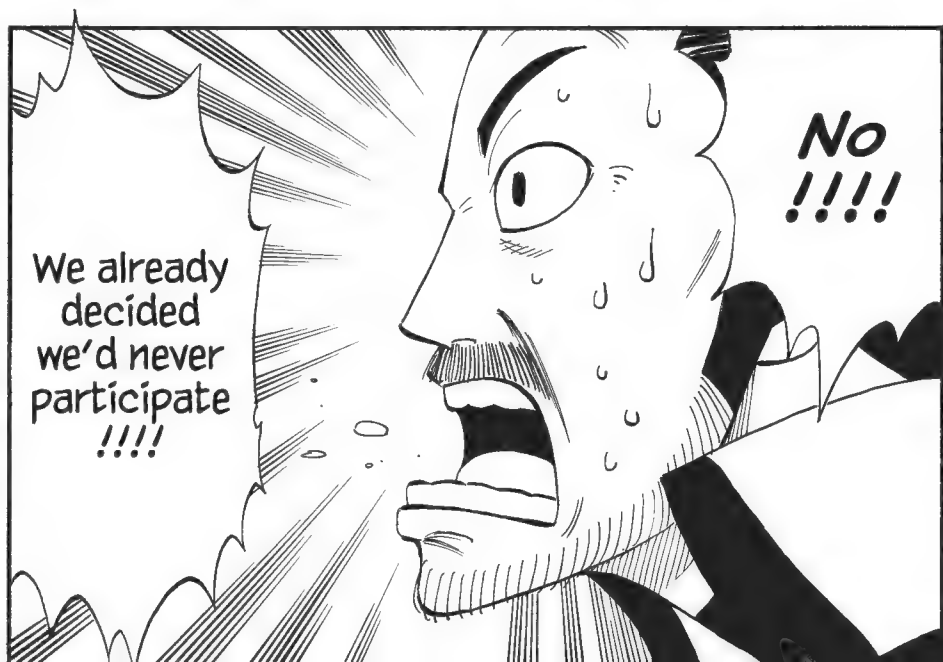
Yes,
sir!

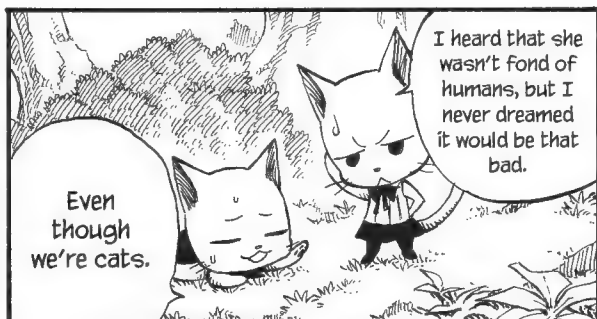
I'm going to
do this until I
die!!! I need
liquor!!! Bring
out the hard
stuff!!!

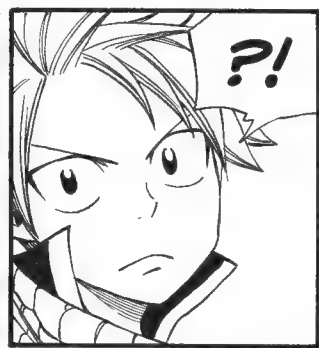
You're always
using that
word for
everything,
huh?

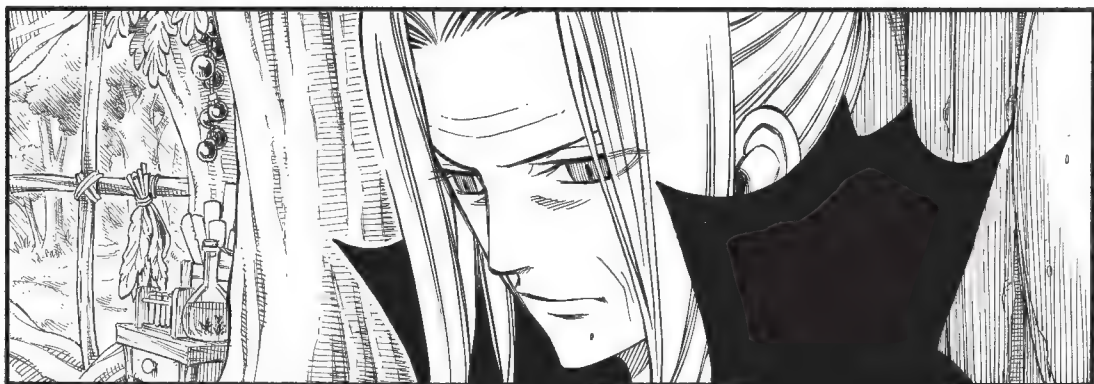
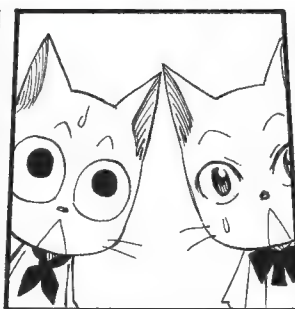












FAIRY TAIL

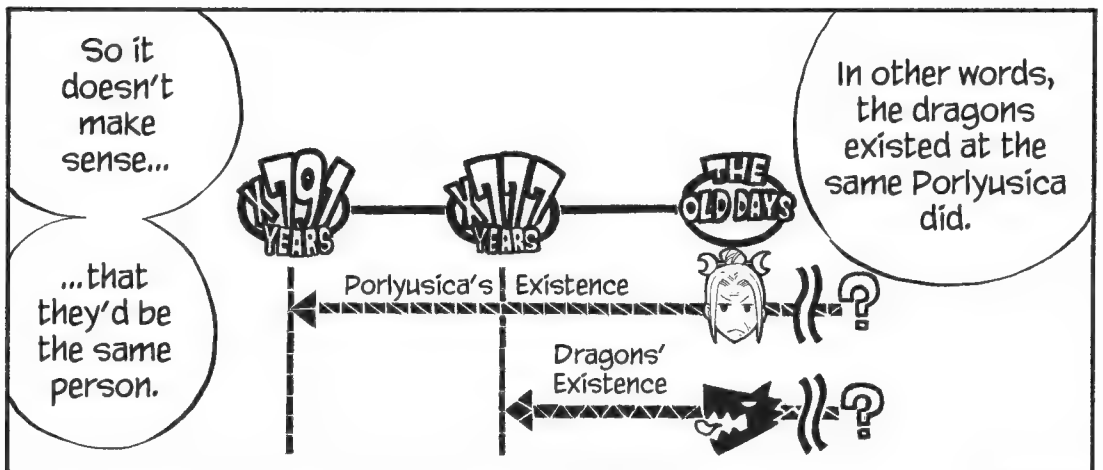
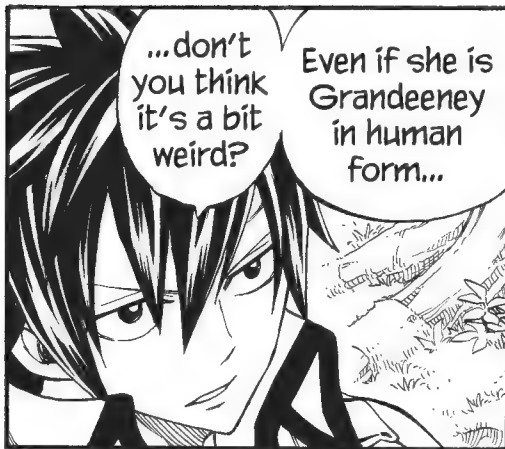


FAIRY TAIL	
Name:	Alzack Connel
Age:	25
Magic:	Guns Magic
Likes:	Bisca, Asuka
Dislikes:	Spicy foods
	

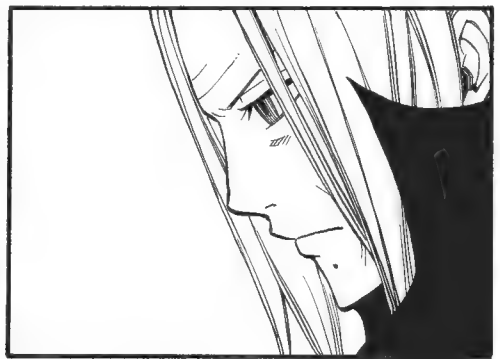
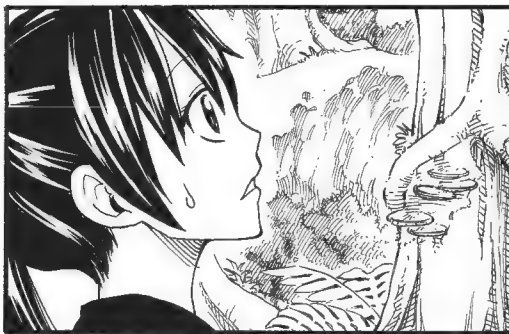
Chapter 260: And We're Going to Aim for the Top

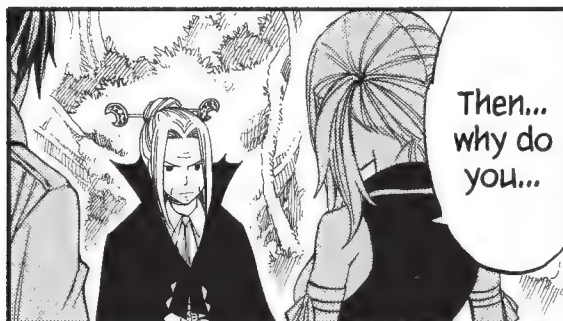
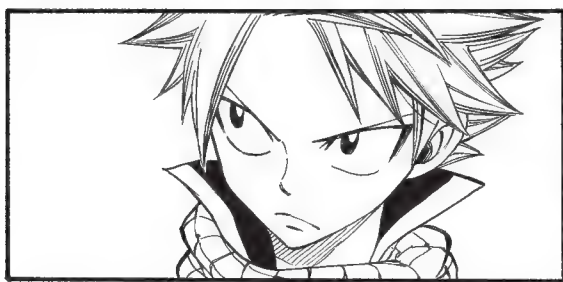
Remarks

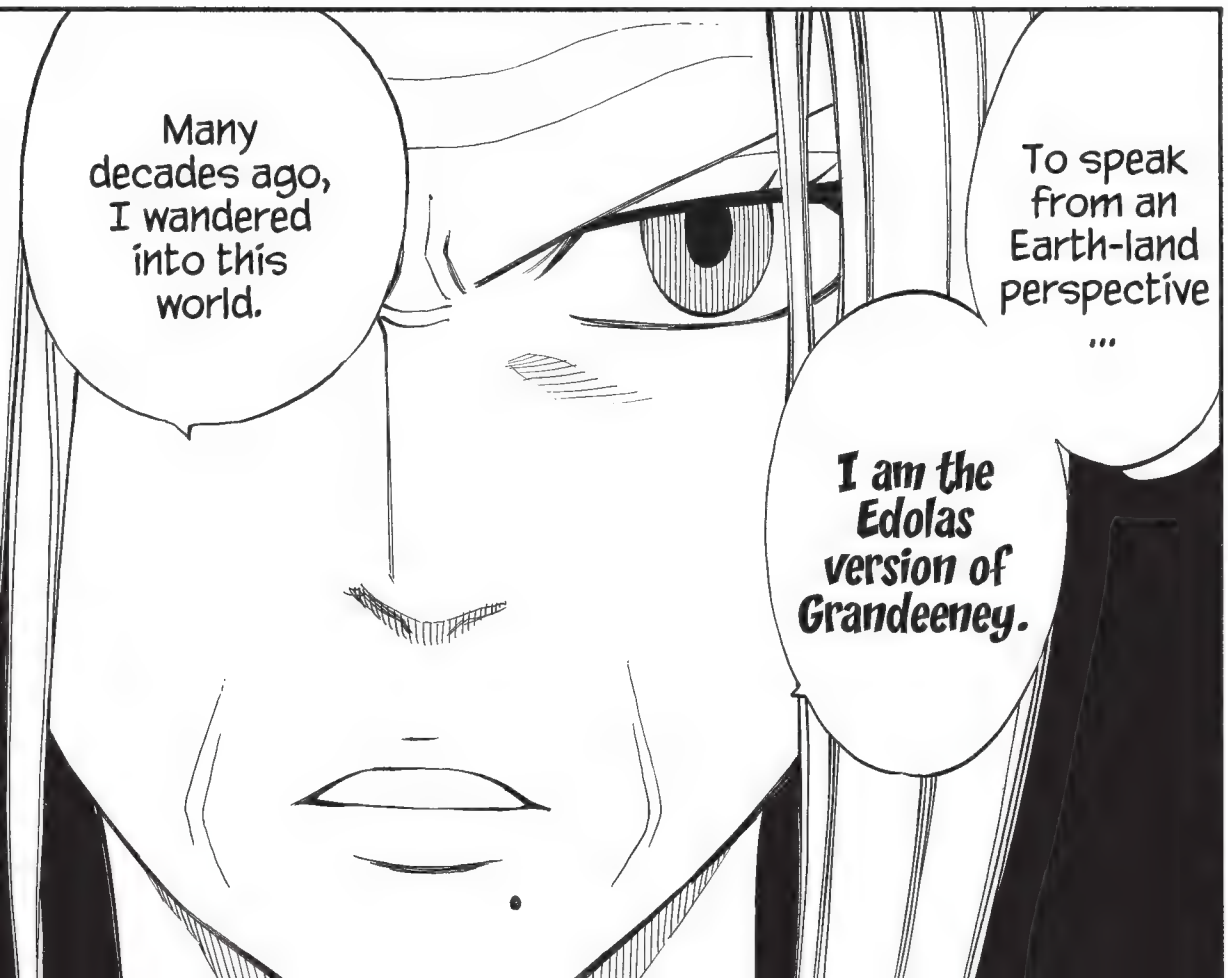
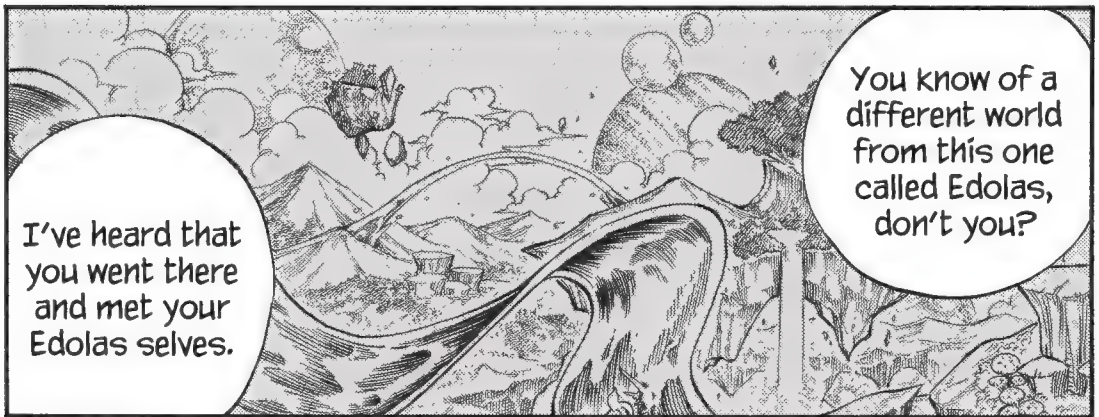
Seven years earlier he fell in love with Bisca, but he could never find the right time to tell her. In X785, they were finally married after Bisca became pregnant. It was Bisca who proposed. Their daughter's name, Asuka, comes from Alzack's "A" sound and Bisca's "ka" sound. He loves his daughter so much that the very sight of her can make his wounds stop hurting, and he brings her to the guild building often. Everyone in the guild loves Asuka. After seven years, his abilities have improved quite a lot, and before the Sirius Island group returned, he was one of the top-class wizards in the guild.







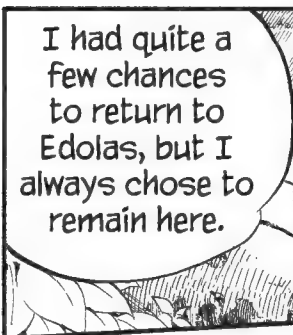




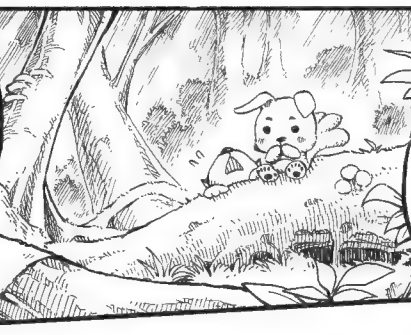


Over there, Grand-eeeny was a human?

Edo-Grand-eeeny?



I had quite a few chances to return to Edolas, but I always chose to remain here.



And I found myself falling in love with Earth-land.

Makarov happened along and helped me...



I cannot say. I have never met them.



Hold it! Does that mean that there are humans in Edolas who are Igneel or Metalicana?

Or are they here?!



I never met the creature. It used magic or some other force to speak directly into my mind.

SHIE



What?!

But... I have spoken with the Sky Dragon.



It is a book of magic that I wrote exactly as the Sky Dragon related it to me.

I may have a method, for Wendy alone.

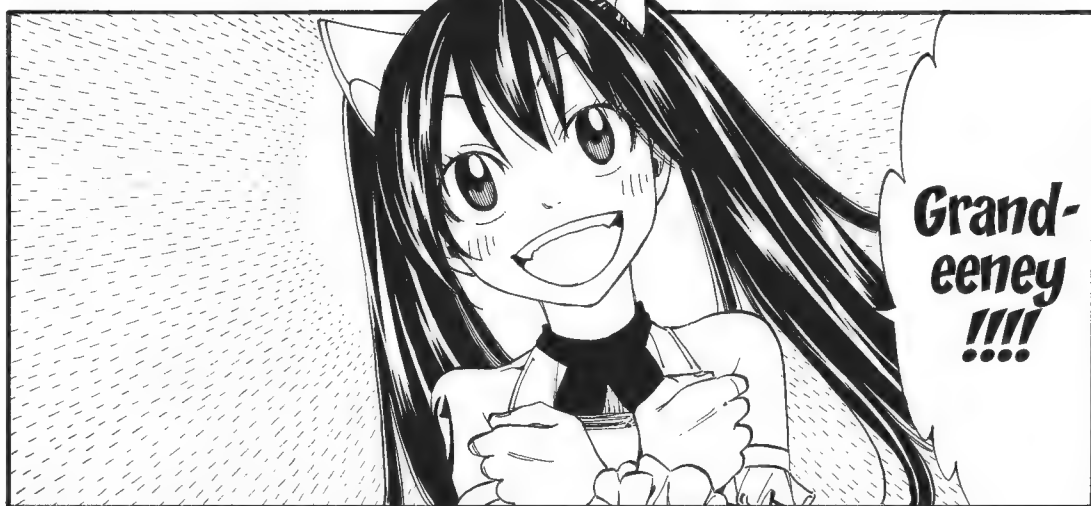
You said you wish to become stronger, did you not?

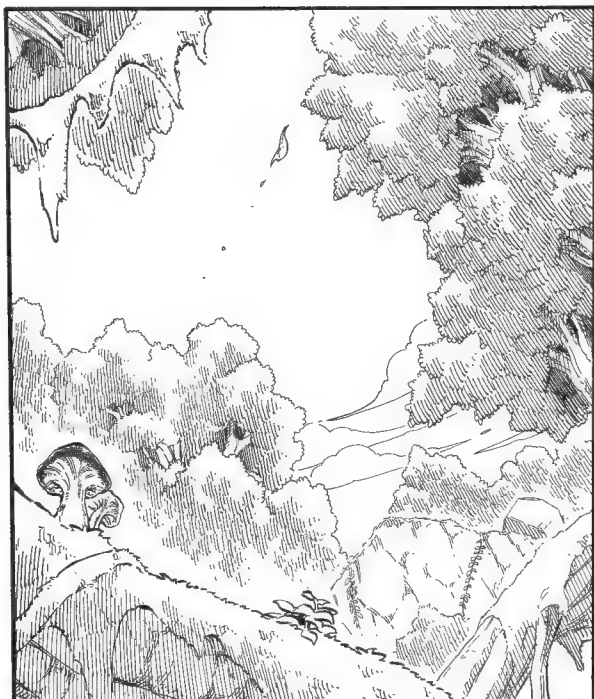
*Flare Burst: Sky Drill

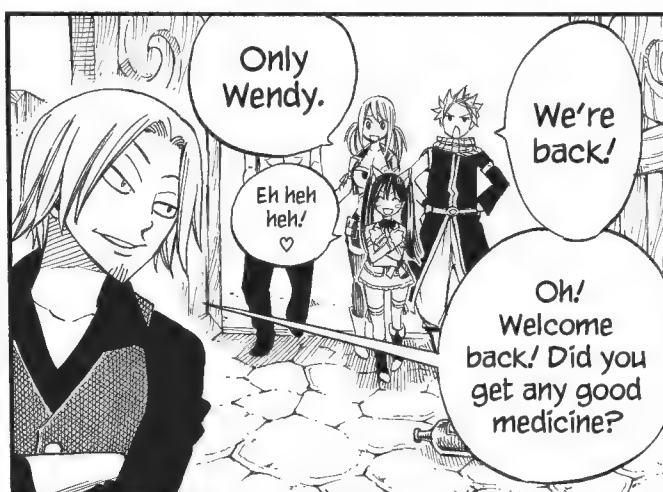
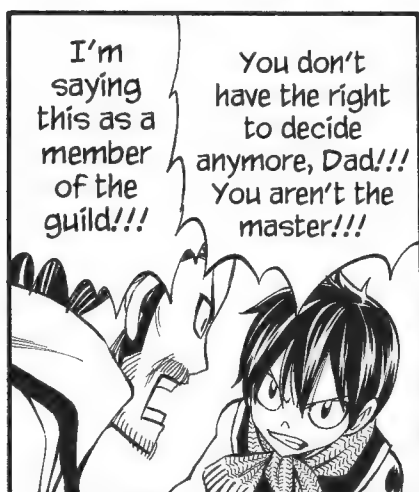


It contains two of the sky magics, *Milky Way* and, *Shôha: Tenkûsen*.*

Two dragon slayer ultimate techniques the dragon did not have a chance to teach you, I'm told.







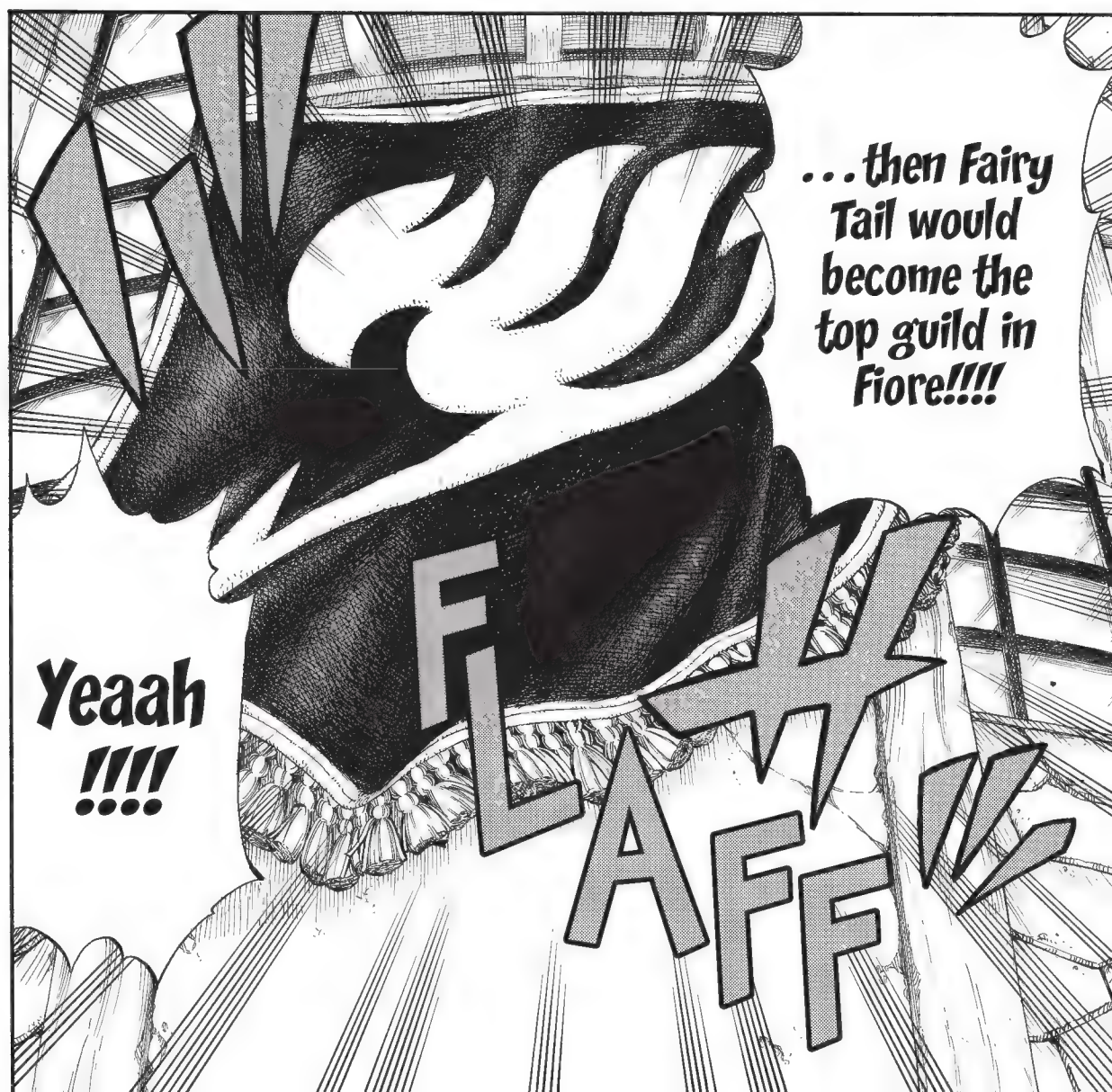


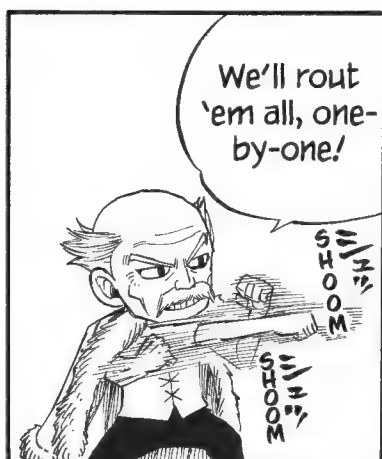
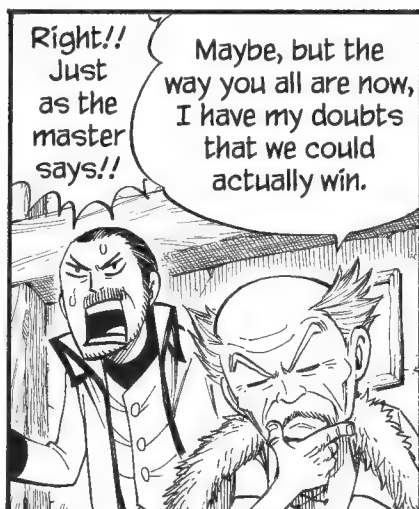


**...the
Grand
Magic
Games
!!!!**

F

DOOOOOOOOM







That's plenty
of time!!!! I'll
see that I'm
up to speed
by then!!

SLAM

We'll make
Fairy Tail the
number one
guild in Fiore
again!!!!



Then there
is nothing
we cannot
do!



Yeah!!
As long as
we all work
together...



Sounds
good.





**Team
Fairy
Tail...**

**...is
going to
enter the
Grand
Magic
Games!!!!**



FAIRY TAIL



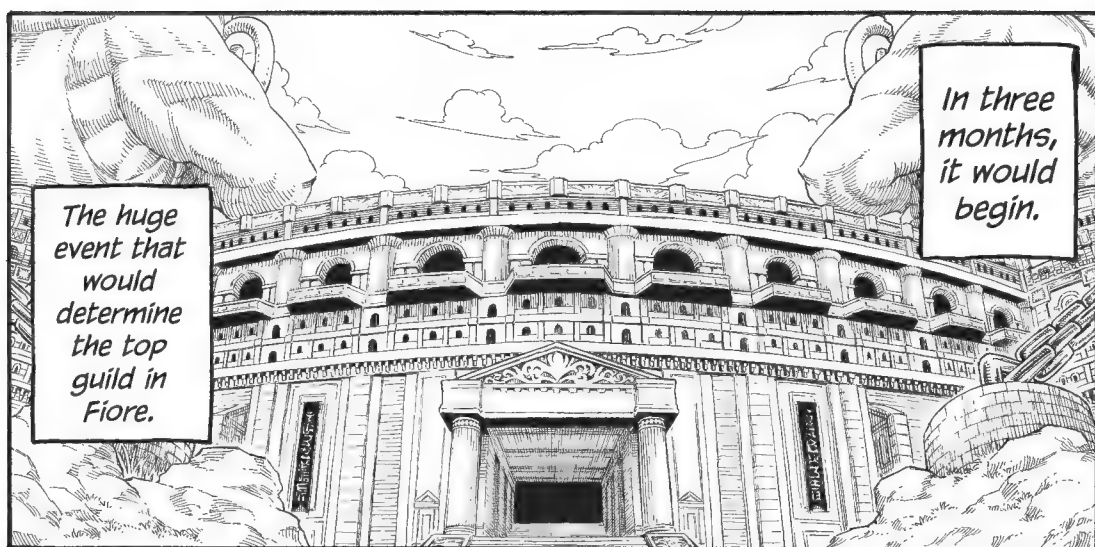
FAIRY TAIL	
Name:	Bisca Connel
Age:	25
Magic:	The Gunner
Likes:	Alzack, Asuka
Dislikes:	Sweet foods



Remarks

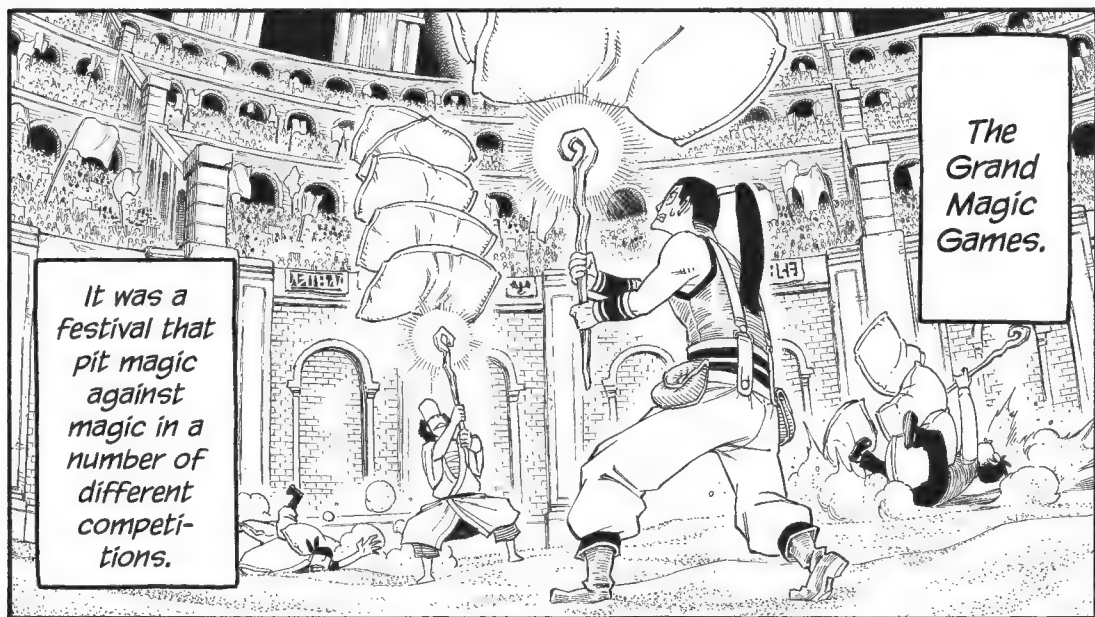
Six years earlier she married Alzack, changed her last name to Connel, gave birth to Asuka, and became the only “working mother” wizard in the guild. Over the past seven years, she’s gotten much better. She can now reload more bullets faster, and even her aim has improved.

When she and Alzack are on a job, they leave Asuka with a friend, but Alzack doesn’t know that the friend was also interested in him, and the two were secretly rivals for his affections.



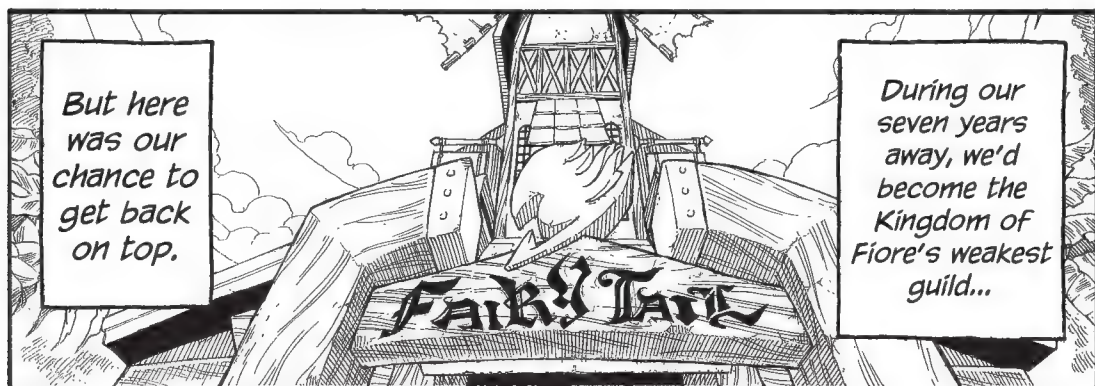
The huge event that would determine the top guild in Fiore.

In three months, it would begin.



It was a festival that pit magic against magic in a number of different competitions.

The Grand Magic Games.



But here was our chance to get back on top.

During our seven years away, we'd become the Kingdom of Fiore's weakest guild...



*But those of
us on Sirius
Island had
been frozen in
time for seven
years...*



**We will
enter
!!!!**

Master
!!

*So we
decided to
enter the
Games.*



*...and we
found that
our magic
hadn't kept
up with the
times.*

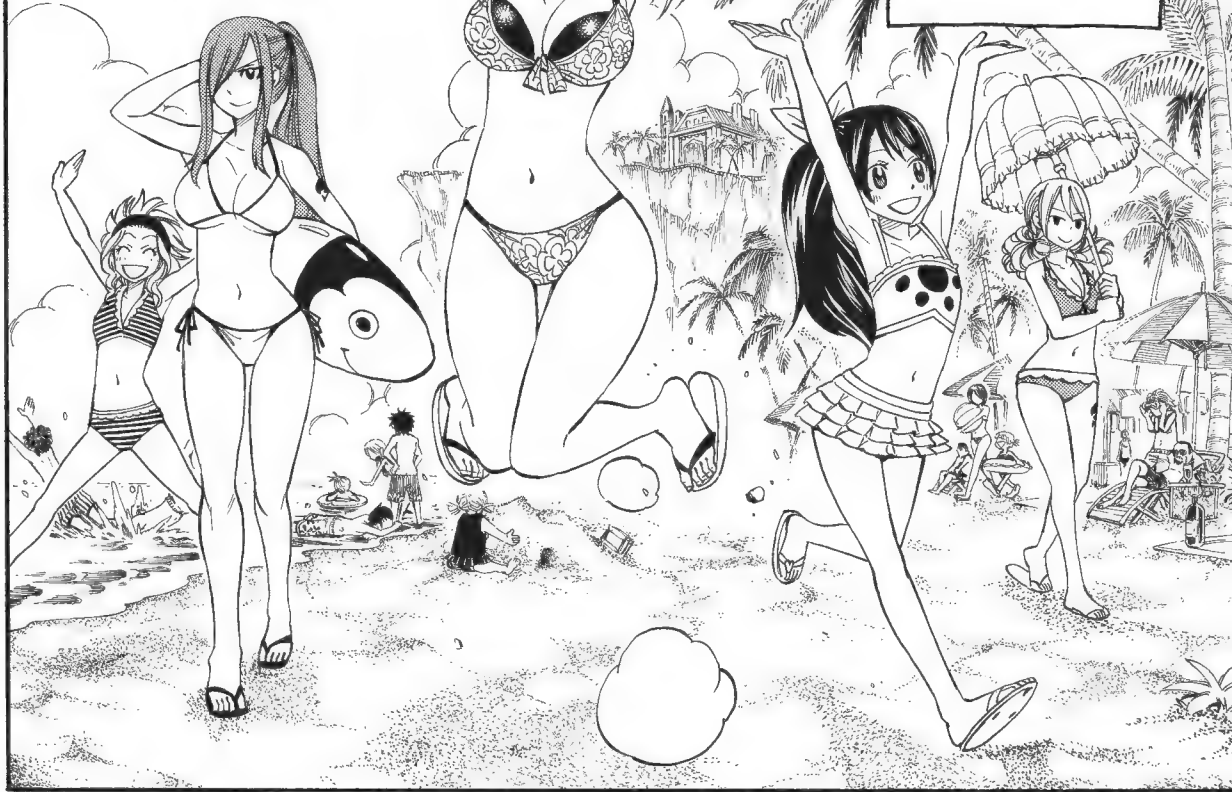


*And
that's
why
we've...*

*It's three
months
until the
festival.*

X YAAAAAY! (♥)

...
decided
to hit
the
beach!



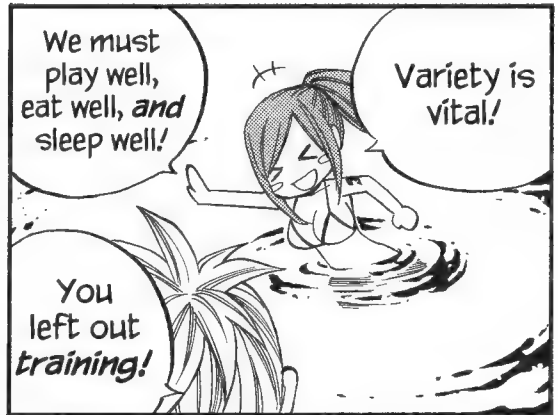
Of
course, we
understand
perfectly!

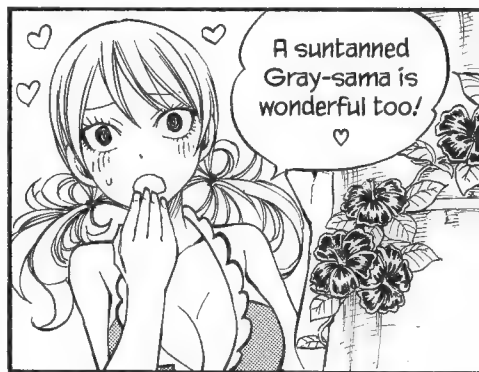
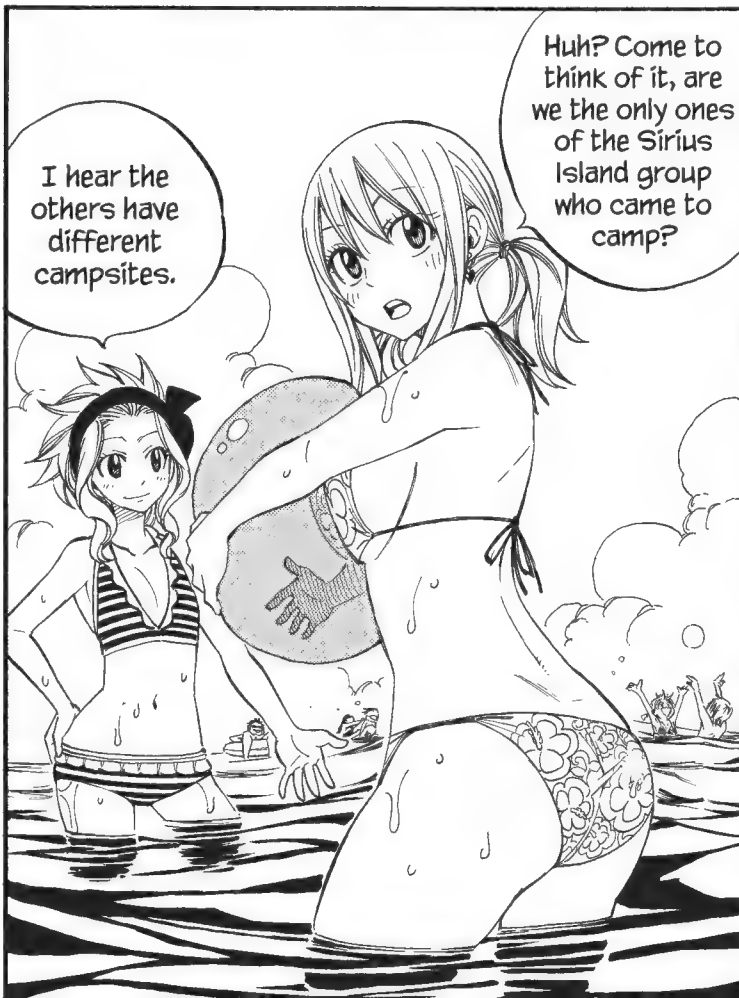
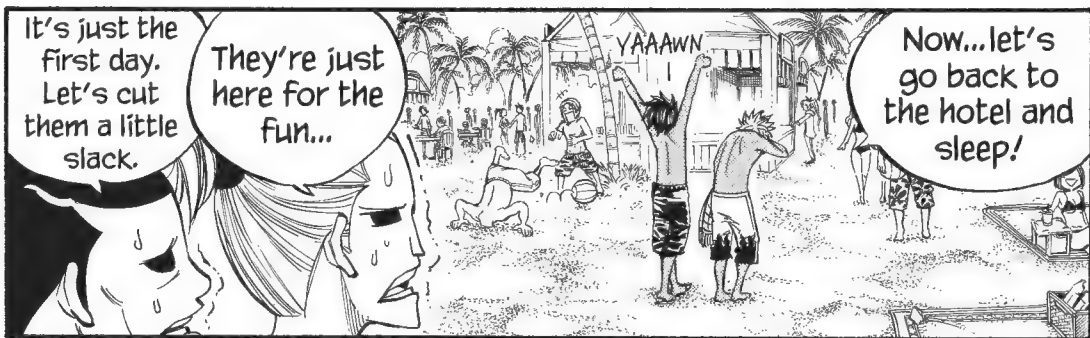
I don't
think you have
the right to
say that in
the get-up
you're in.

That's
right!

Listen,
you! We
aren't here
to play!











Personally, I want to do something about the fact that my magic always cuts out at the most crucial moment.

Next, breath so deeply you become one with nature.

...the wind... your energy... Feel it all through your skin.

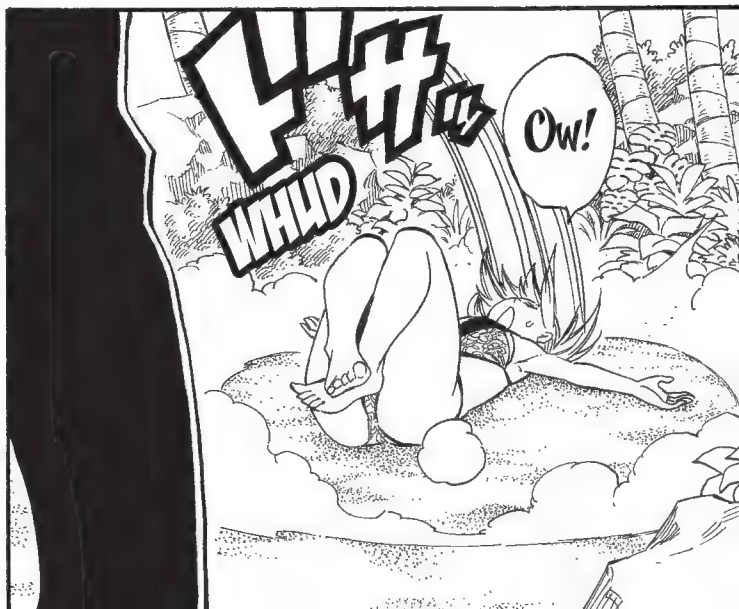
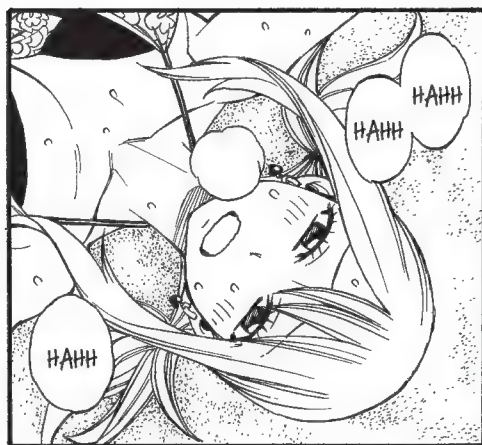
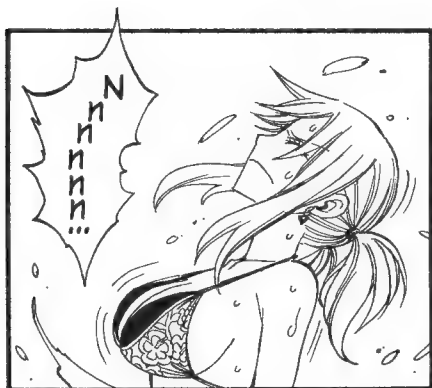
You must feel the earth...

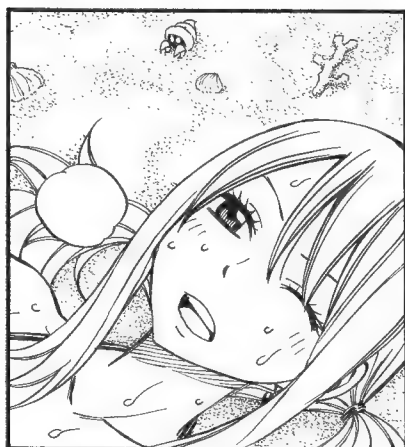
...the wind...
your energy...
Feel it all
through your
skin.

You
must
feel the
earth...

НА
ТА
НА
НА
НА

SSSP





Lady Layla did the same kind of training in an effort to build up her celestial magic.



This is hard!

はあ
はあ
はあ



My mother told me about it once...



You mean the point where all magic is said to have started?

Hades was talking about it. He said he wanted to get his hands on it.



Say... Have you ever heard of the *one magic*?



Supposing... the one magic that Mother spoke of was real...

...then it wouldn't be something that Hades could ever get his hands on. Such a thing would be out of the question...



...May I ask what you mean?

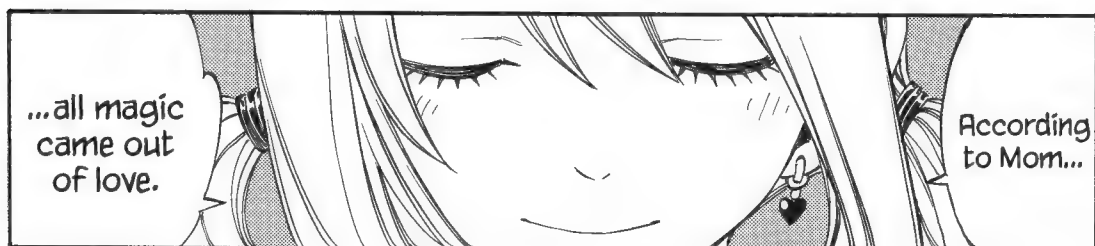


But what she said wasn't as awful as Zeref or the Great Magic World.



She
said it was
so powerful
nothing could
ever surpass
it... but also
weak at the
same time.

It'd
obviously
be incredibly
difficult
to obtain
something
like that.



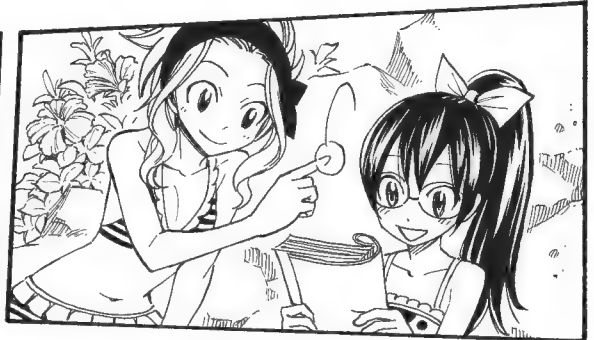
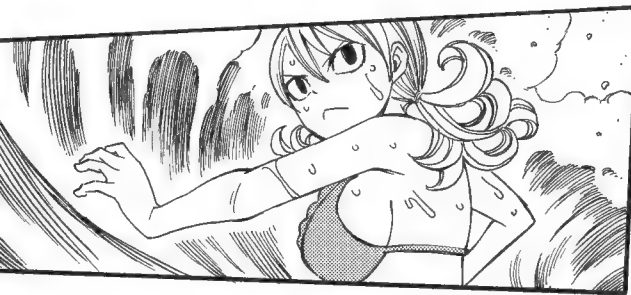
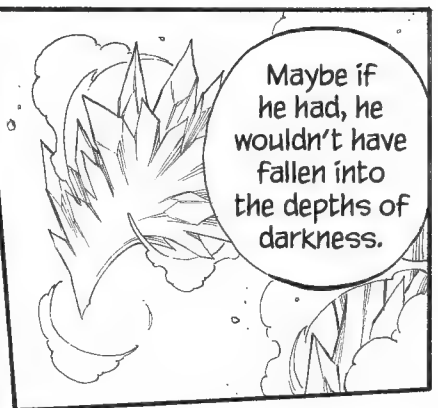
...all magic
came out
of love.

According
to Mom...



...is
LOVE.

**That's why I
think the one
magic...**







...
them...

...
show...

I'll...

*Akane Inn



PUFF
PUFF
PUFF

PUFF

PUFF

HAHHH

Juvia,
hurry
up!



I ate
too
much...

Hey, no fair
you going
in front!

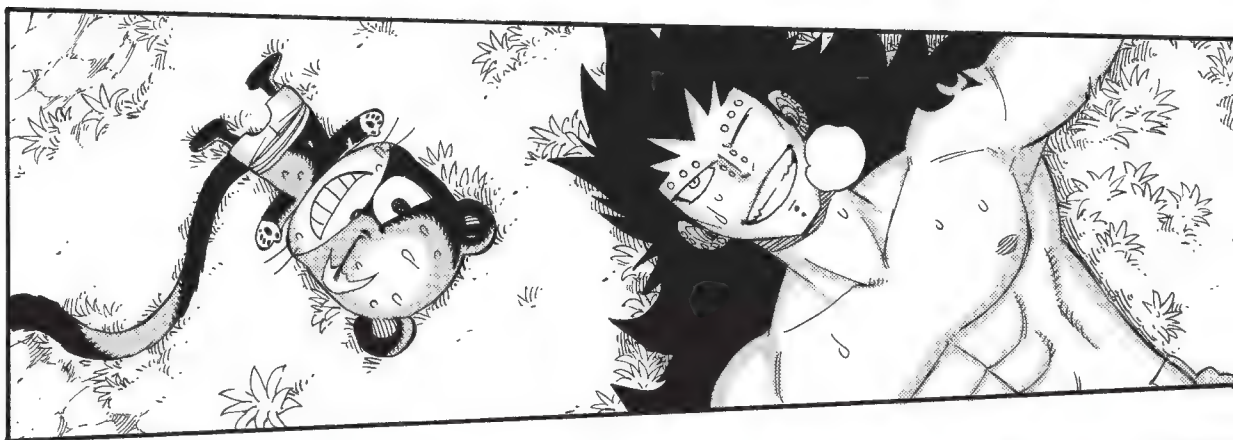
W-Well, this
sort of thing
is expected
of us...

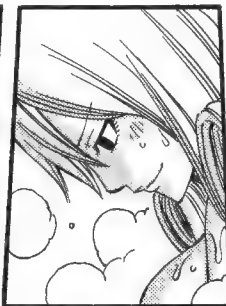
This'll
be some
show!!

HEE
HEE



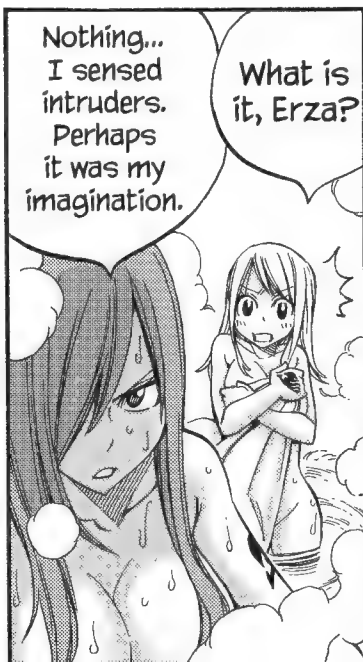






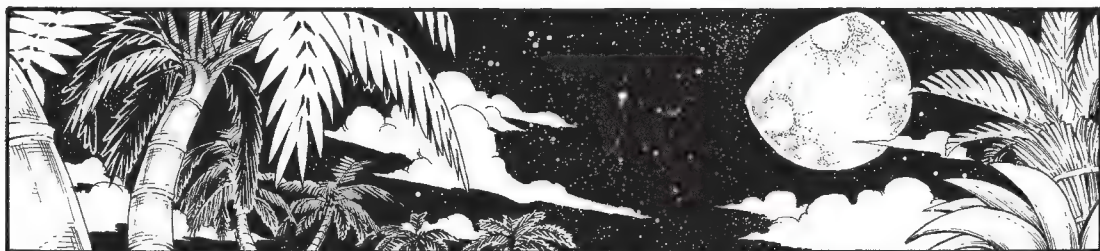
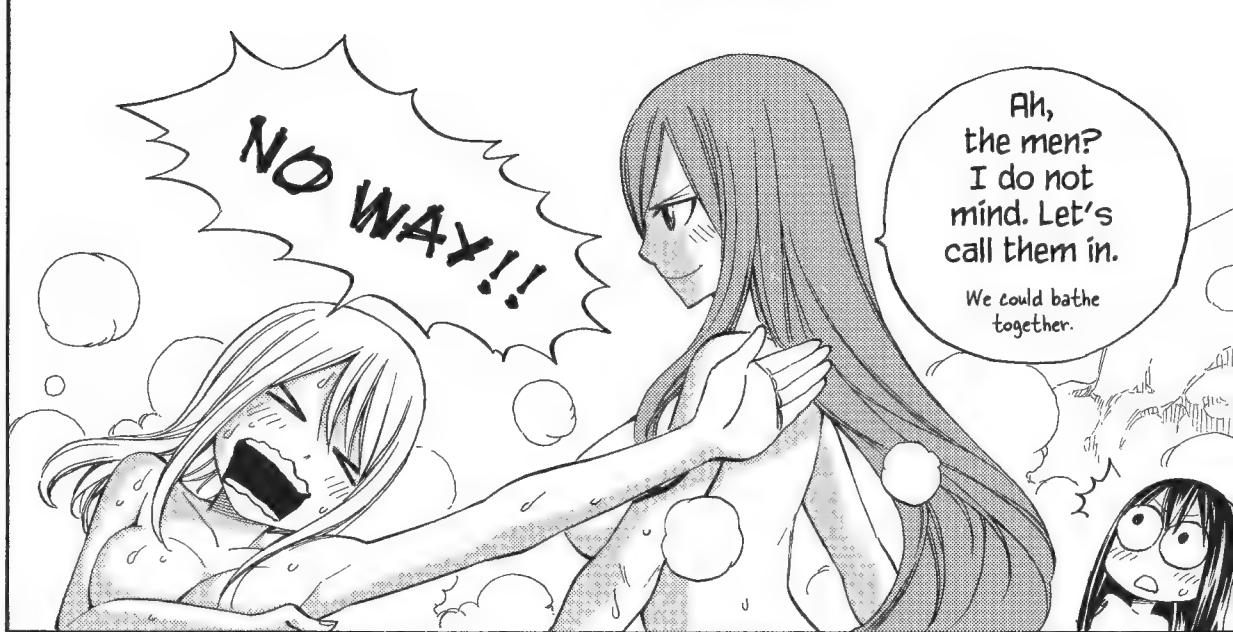
It couldn't be the guys peeping, could it?

Gray-sama would never do such a thing!!



What is it, Erza?





FAIRY TAIL



FAIRY TAIL	
Name:	Wakaba Mine
Age:	43
Magic:	Smoke Magic
Likes:	Liquor, tobacco, women
Dislikes:	His wife



Remarks

He was top aide to the fourth master, Macao, for seven years. As such, it could also be said that he was one of those who allowed Fairy Tail's strength to weaken criminally during those years. His tendency toward sexual harassment has angered guild women including Laki and Kinana (guild employees).

He has a daughter about the same age as Romeo, but recently she has not been speaking to him. She has declared that she will join Twilight Ogre when she gets a little bigger, and he was in the midst of doing everything he could to dissuade her when the Sirius Island group returned. Now, a bit of hope has returned to Wakaba's life.

With only
three
months
to go
before
the Grand
Magic
Games.

It's our
second
day of
beach
training.

If we continue
at this pace, we
may yet catch up
to the magic of
this age.

Yep!

It's only been two
days for me, but
I think my magic
has improved
already.

If we work
full out on
building up
our bodies...

Yeah!!
I'm all
powered up
now!!

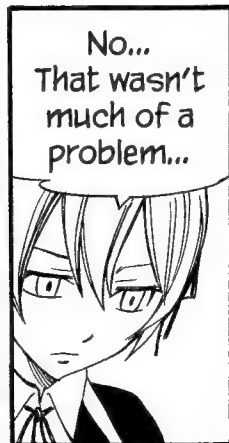
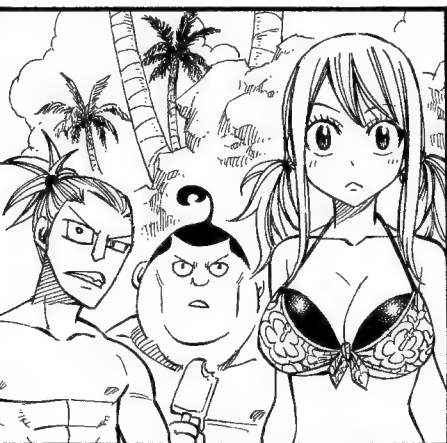
...but if we use
really efficient
training methods,
then it's more like
we *still* have a full
three months.

Aye!

At first, I
thought
of it as
just three
months...

You'll see
what comes
from fairies
doing three
months of
*training by
fire!!!!*

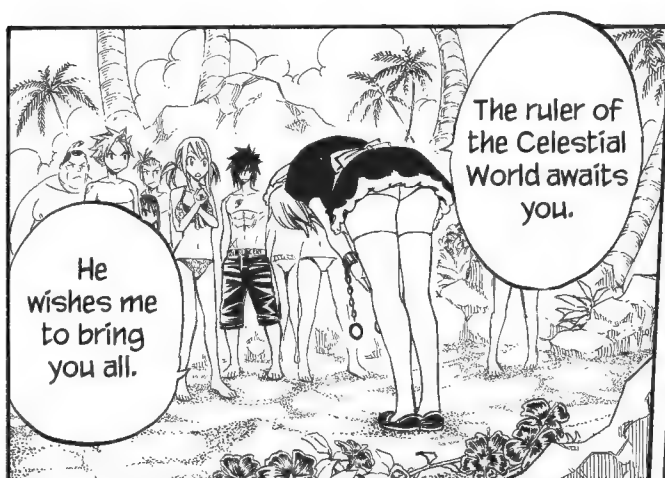
Ha ha ha
ha ha!!!
Just you
watch and
see, you
jerks from
the other
guilds!!





The Celestial World may be destroyed.

We beg all of you...to please come save us!



He wishes me to bring you all.

The ruler of the Celestial World awaits you.



What's that mean?

What was that?

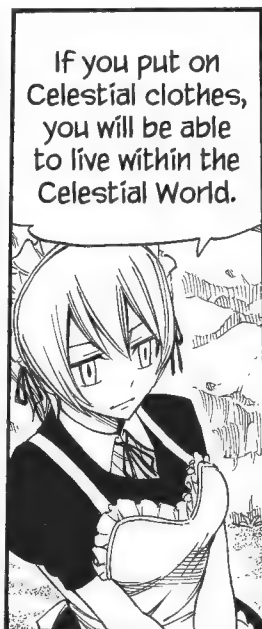


...!!!



Hold it! I'm not emotionally prepared—

We're going.



If you put on Celestial clothes, you will be able to live within the Celestial World.

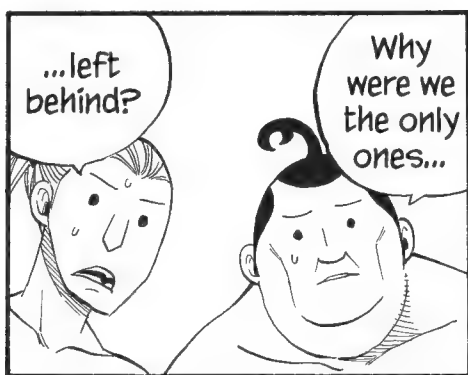


Right!! Leave it to us!!! If a friend is asking, we're there...

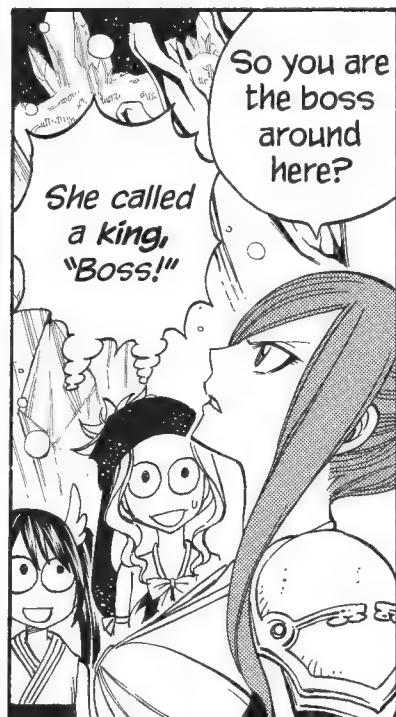


I didn't think that humans could enter the Celestial World!

Wait!!



It's beautiful...!



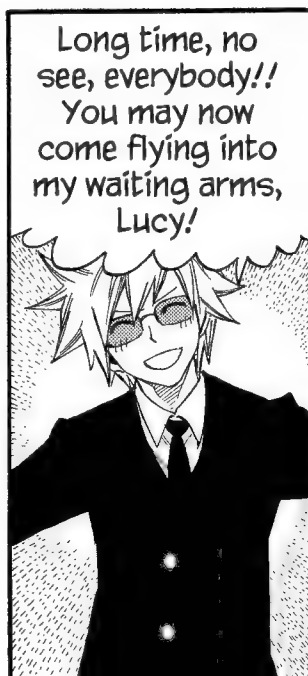
Congratu-
lations
on your
freedom
from
the time
curse!!!!

Lucy and
her old
friends...

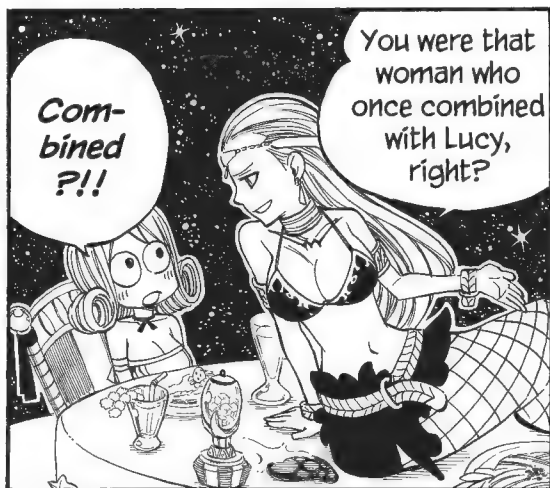
We
celebrate
!!!!

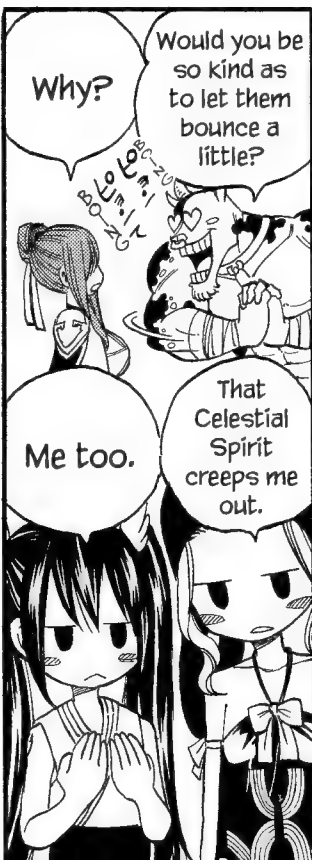
BONNNNG

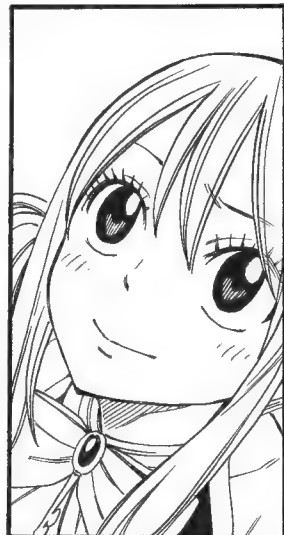
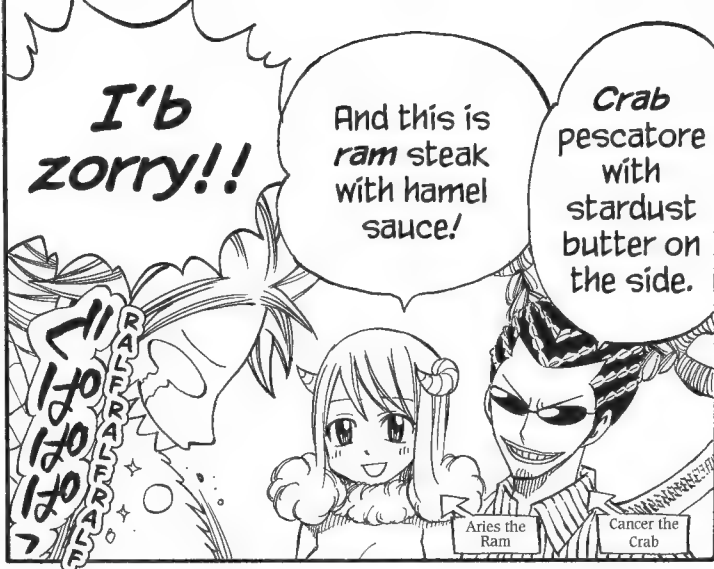
Huh?

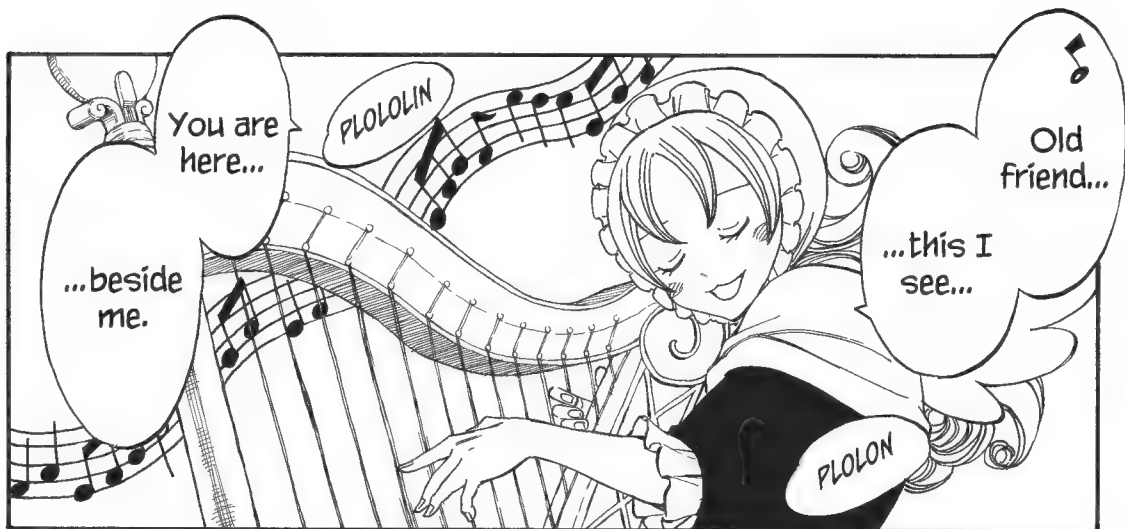


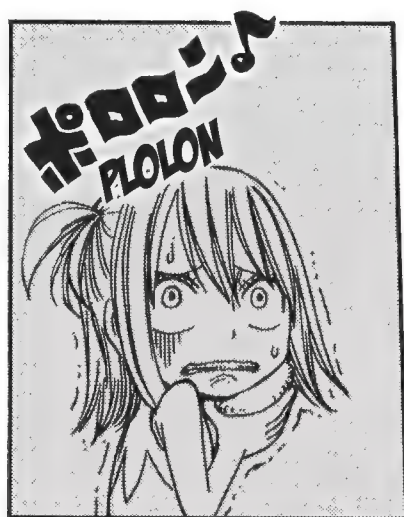
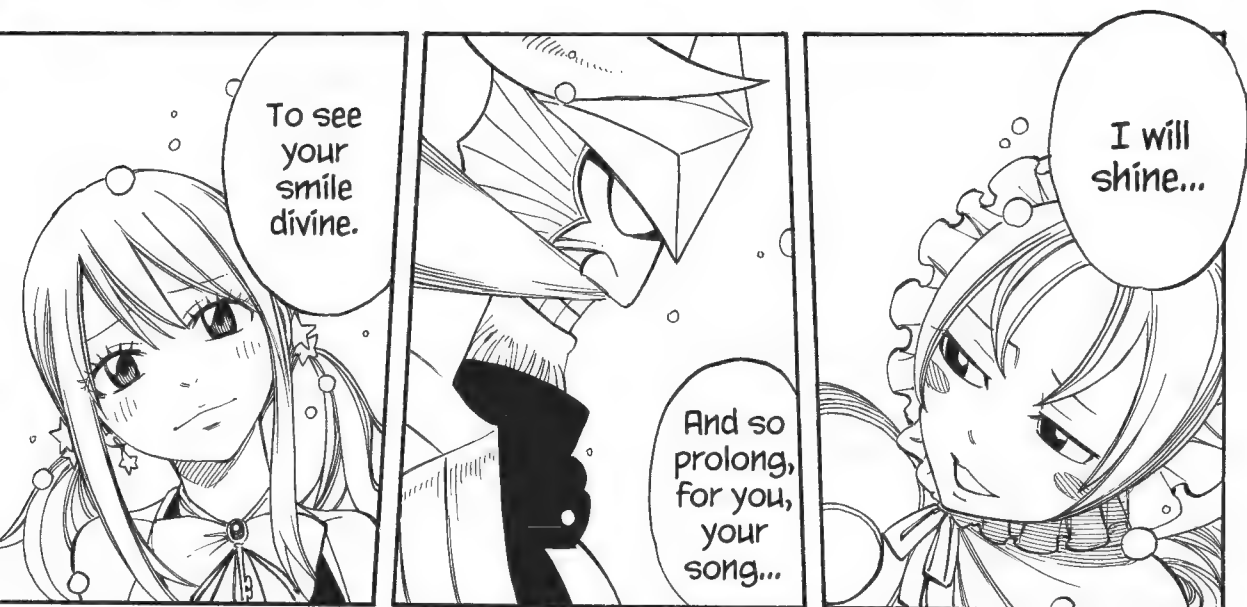


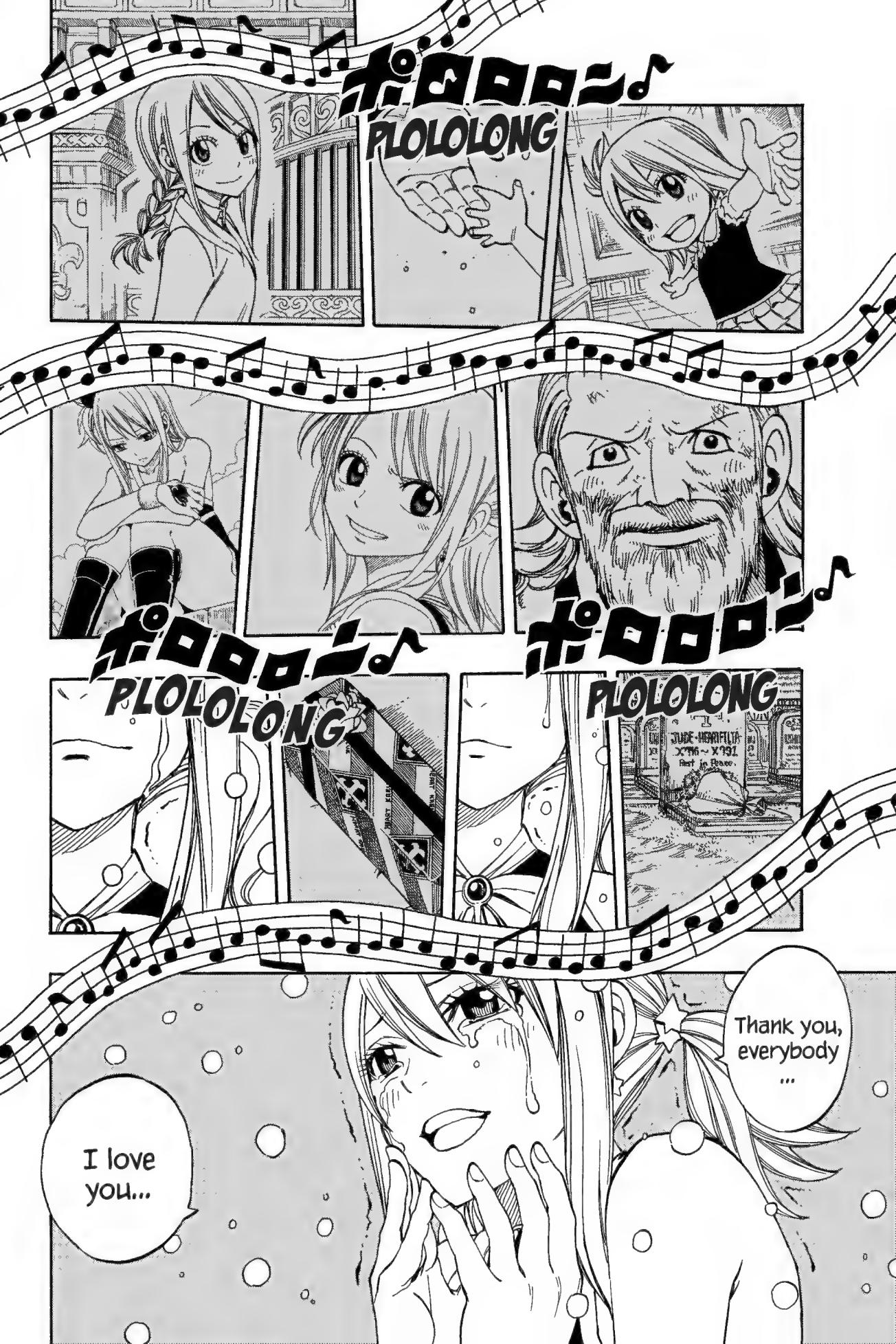












PLOLOLONG

PLOLOLONG

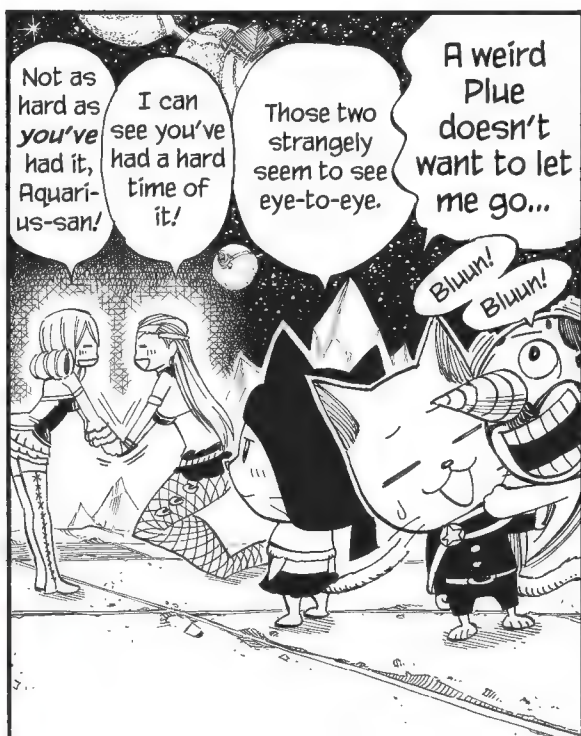
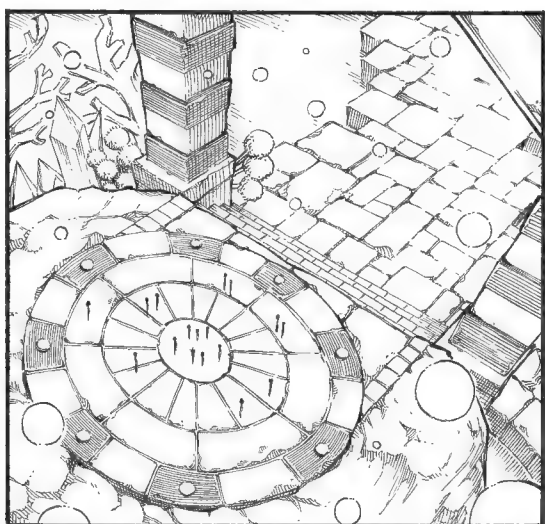
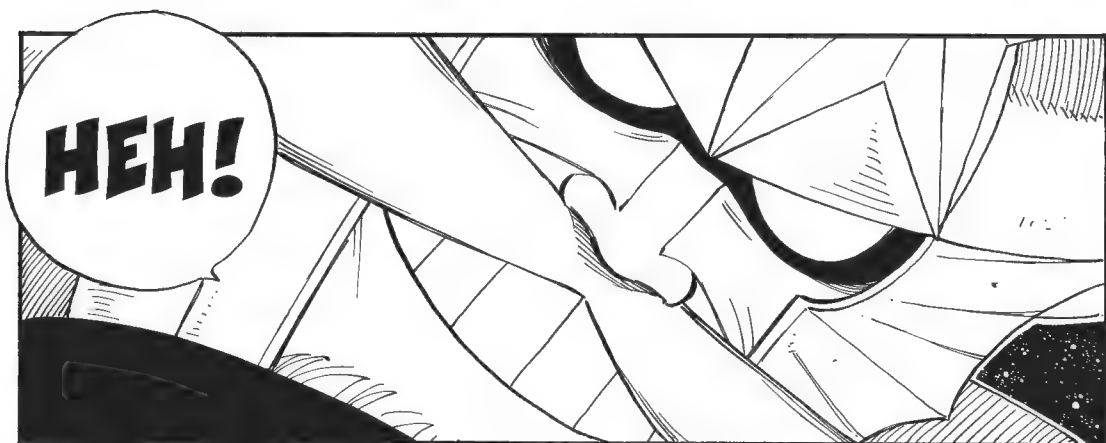
PLOLOLONG

PLOLOLONG

PLOLOLONG

Thank you,
everybody
...

I love
you...







True!!! We have only three months to catch up to the other guilds!!

We've had some fun, but we should get training again as soon as we get back!

They really *are* great friends!

The Celestial Spirits truly love you.

That would be like the training zone of our dreams!!!!

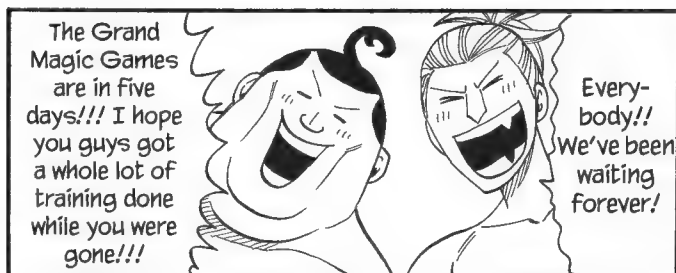
Like a year here is like a single day in the human world? That kinda thing?

The Celestial World and the Human World experience time differently.

You're kidding! You mean...

?


There was one thing we may have forgotten to mention.



FAIRY TAIL



FAIRY TAIL	
Name:	Jet (Real name: Sarusuke) Age: 25
Magic:	High Speed
Likes:	Sushi, Levy
Dislikes:	Shrimp



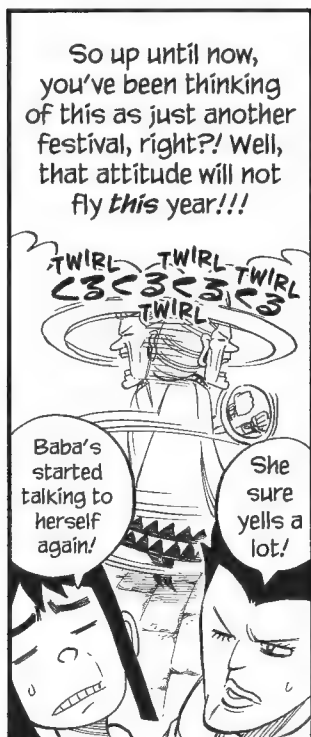
Remarks

One of the three members of the Fairy Tail team "Shadow Gear," along with Levy and Droy. During the time that Levy was absent, he and Droy did their jobs together.

He used to be in love with Levy, but during her seven-year absence, he's had a couple of girlfriends. They were both nice girls, but he's broken up with both of them now. Once Levy returned, his feelings for her returned as well, but now that he sees that Levy may have feelings for Gajeel, there's a part of him who simply wishes for her happiness.



Wizard
Guild
Lamia
Scale...



So up until now,
you've been thinking
of this as just another
festival, right?! Well,
that attitude will not
fly *this* year!!!

This can't
be!!! It
is a bad
joke!!!

The Grand
Magic
Games?!!
Every year
we come
up second-
best!!!

TWIRL TWIRL TWIRL
TWIRL TWIRL TWIRL

Baba's
started
talking
to
herself
again!

She
sure
yells a
lot!

TWIRL TWIRL TWIRL
TWIRL TWIRL TWIRL

LAMIA
SCALE
MASTER
OHBA BABASAAMA



I got no
choice. If
Obaba says
so, I can't
refuse.

I suppose I
can attend a
festival once
in a while.



Lyon!!
Jura!!

TWIRL TWIRL TWIRL
TWIRL TWIRL TWIRL

You two will
participate
this time!!



Wizard
Guild
Blue
Pegasus
...

So it
seems that
the wizard
saint Jura
is entering
this year.



Lamia will
be Fiore's
No. 1
guild!!!

That
means we're
gonna win
for sure!!!

You mean
Lyon and
Jura are in it
this year?



Then let's
release our
own secret
weapon.

And we were
trying to win the
thing ourselves
this year!
♡

I-Is that
so? That's
pretty stinky
perfume
there.



Right?

Rogue
?

Now that's
something
to look
forward
to.



Wizard
Guild
Saber
Tooth

You
serious
?



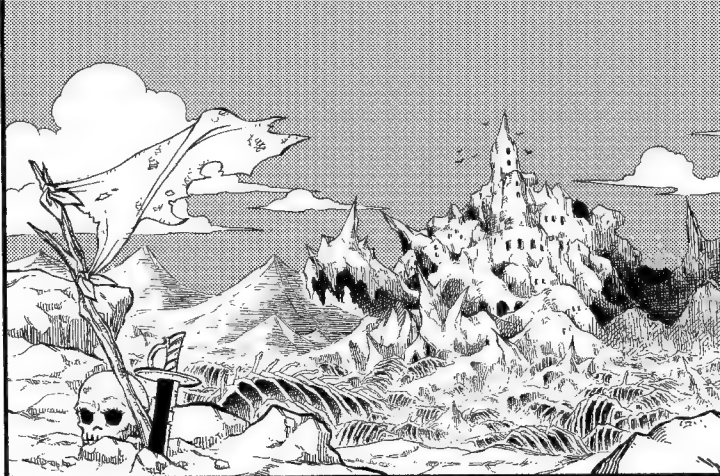
Not
interested.



Yeah. That's
the rumor
going around
Magnolia.

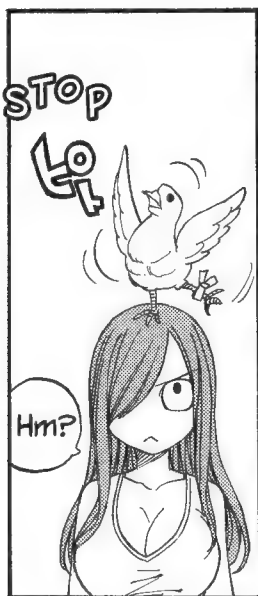
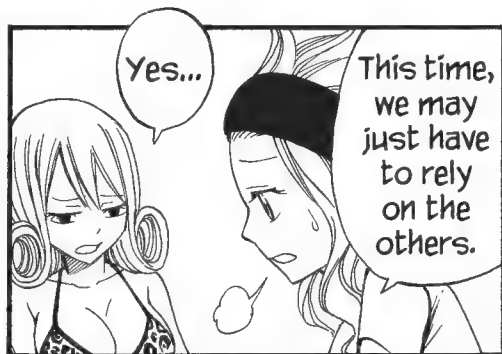
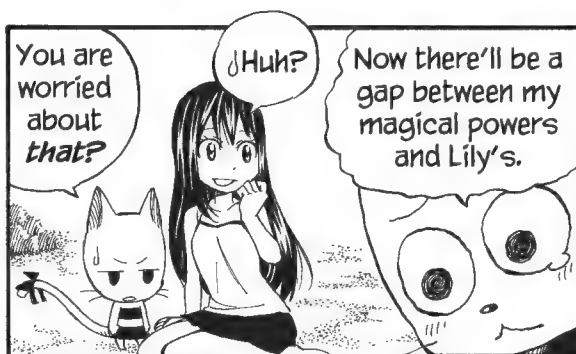
You're saying
Natsu is going
to be in the
Grand Magic
Games this
year?

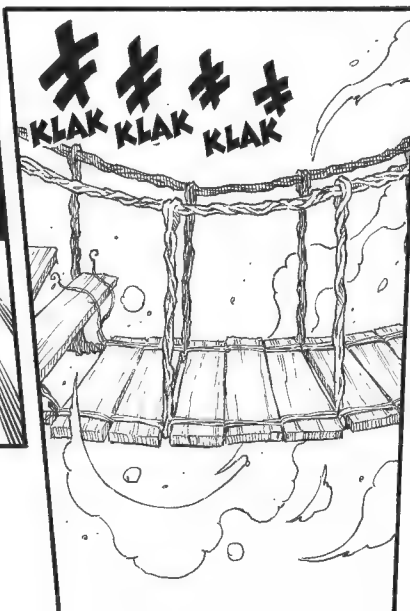
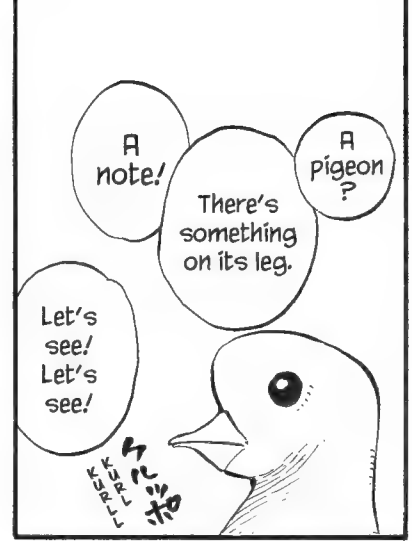
Fro
heard
so
also!

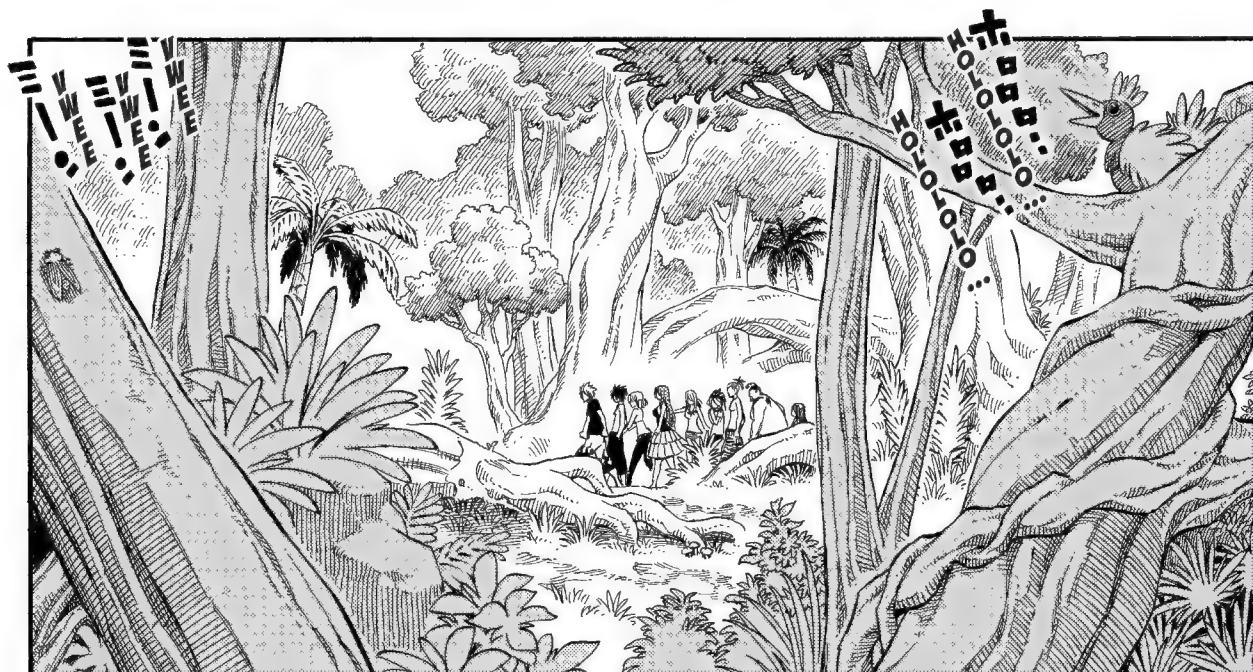
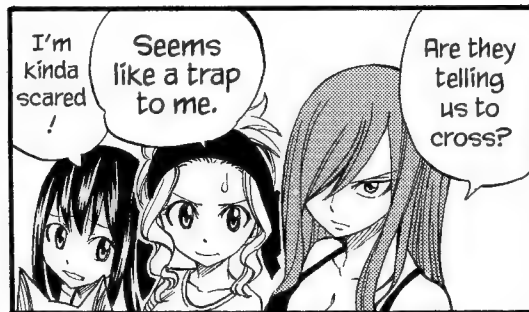


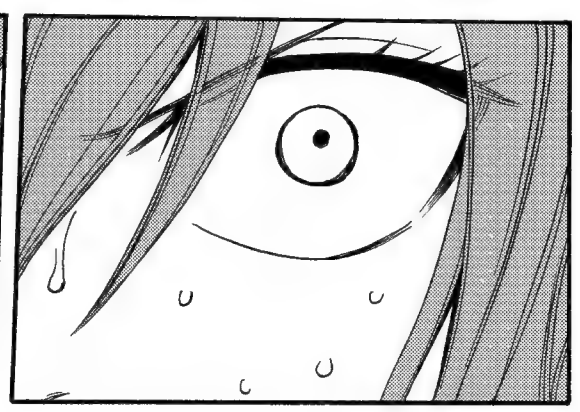
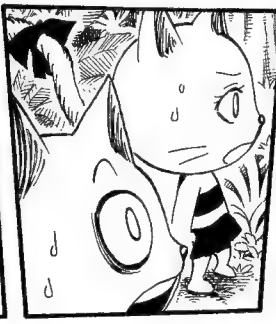
**WIZARD
GUILD
RAVEN TAIL**



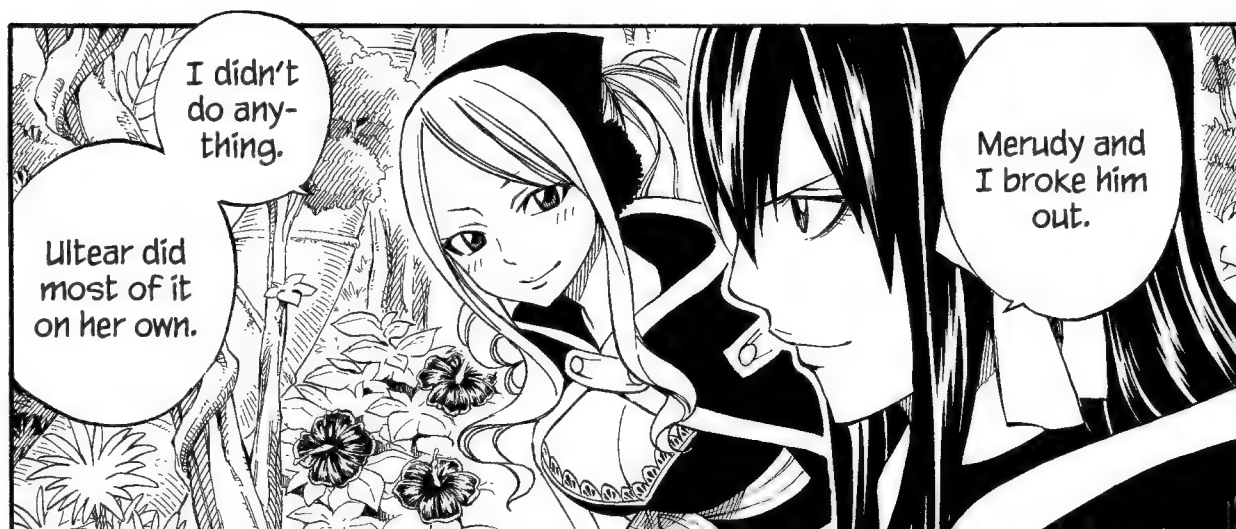
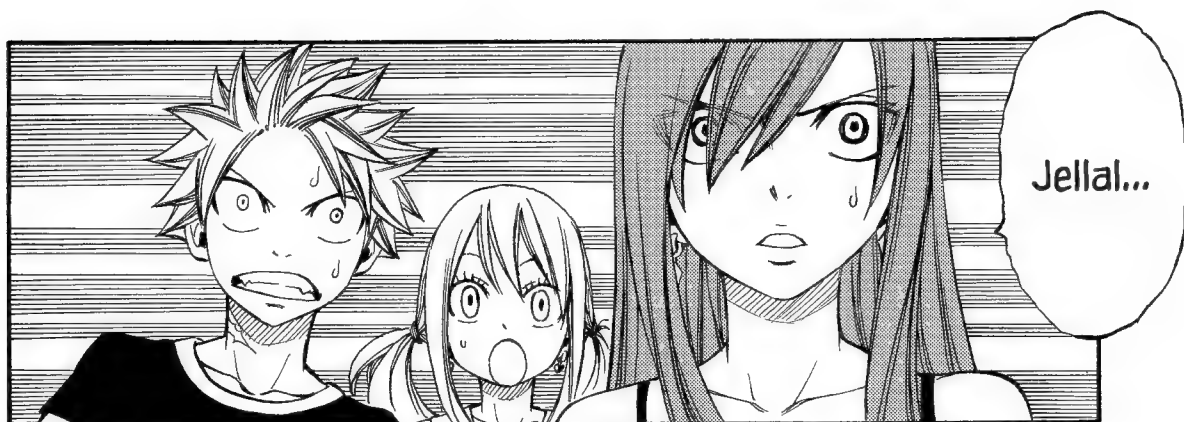














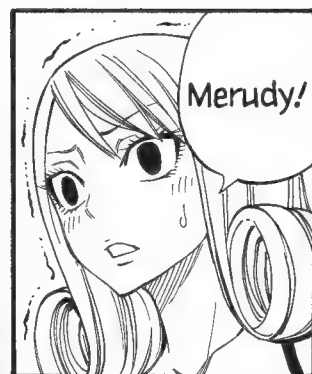
She can smile so happily now!



SMILE
♪~♪

It's been a long time!

Juvia!



Merudy!



No matter what I do, the crimes I committed in my youth cannot be paid for, even in a lifetime of atonement.

Yet...at the very least, my wish is to save some of the people whose lives my actions warped. At least, that is my intention.



Hey! Wait! They're not enemies now.

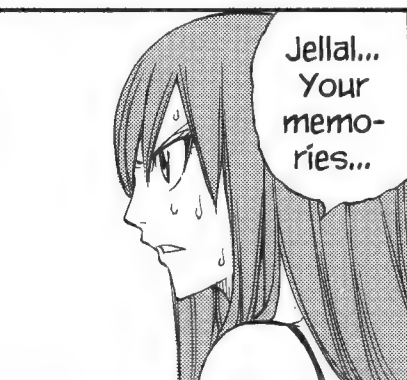
Those two are from Grimoire...

Jellal escaped prison?



We aren't.

You aren't, are you?



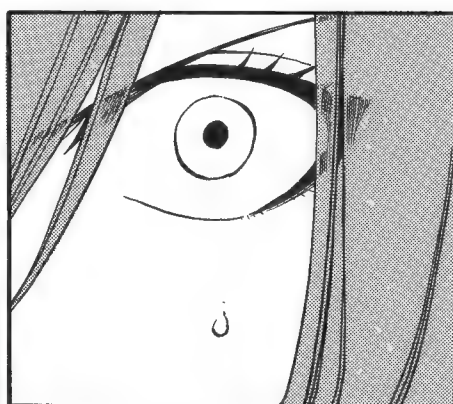
Jellal... Your memories...



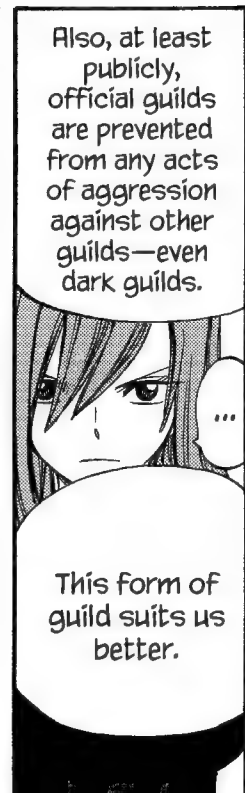
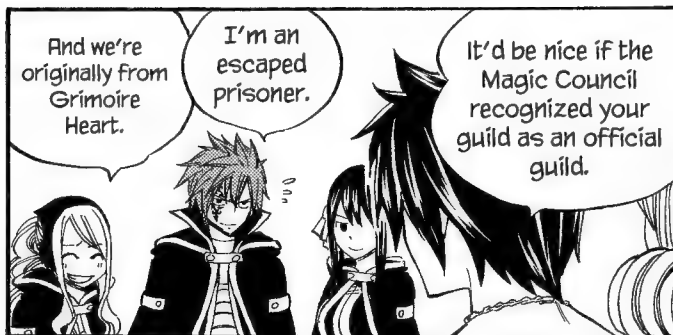
That is the past.

Do not worry about me. Both you and I were possessed by the darkness.

Jellal, for example.









Every year during the festival, we sense a very odd style of magic.

We'd like you to find out what it is.

Maybe we noticed it because we were all too close to Zeref once.

But that magic seems evil, like Zeref's.

At first, we thought so too.

It's a gathering of all the guilds throughout Fiore, right? There's bound to be a trace of suspicious magic.

What do you mean?





Of course, this request has nothing to do with the games. We'll be rooting for Fairy Tail from the shadows.

We're hoping you can investigate when you aren't competing.



We want to know what is behind that magic.

It might even be a clue to tracking down Zeref himself.



Zeref...



Rent money !!

Food money !!

We will pay your reward in advance.

No. I don't mean money.



Are you sure, Erza?

We'd appreciate it.

It sounds as difficult as tying down a cloud, but we'll do what we can.

If all the guilds of Fiore are gathered in a place where there is strange magic, then it affects us as well.

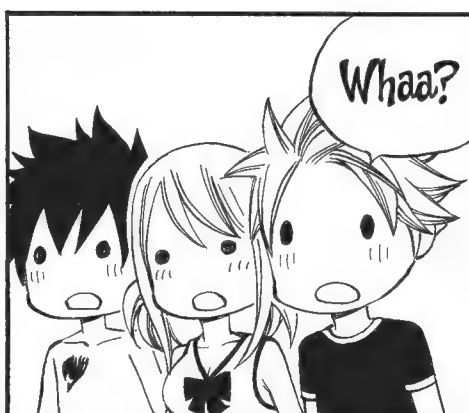


I've improved my Arc of Time.

It can help to advance your abilities, as well.



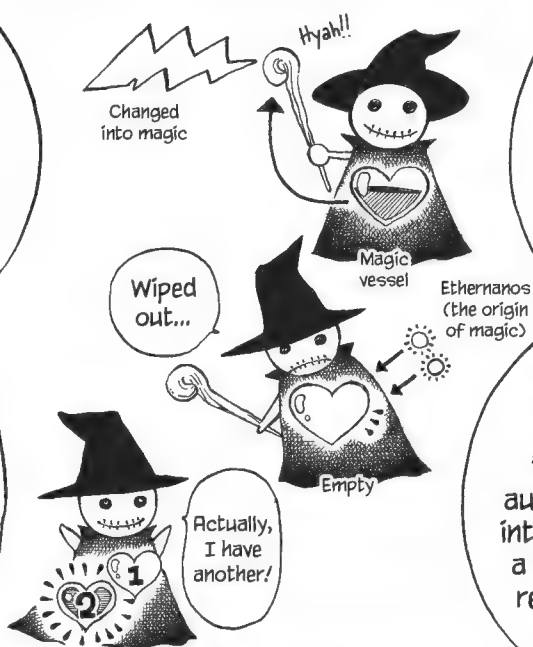
I could call it something tempting like a "power up," but that's not really it.



Whaa?

However... Recent research into wizards has revealed a portion of the vessel that usually goes unused.

A latent potential that everyone has, the *second origin*.



Wizards have something like a "vessel" within them that limits the amount of magic power they can possess.

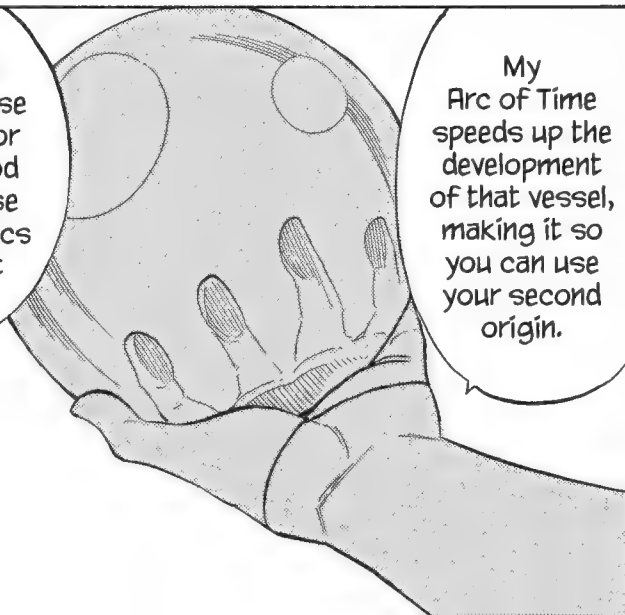
Even if you use up all of your magic, the ethernanos in the atmosphere are automatically absorbed into the body, and, given a little time, the vessel returns to its normal, full state.

OOOHH!!!!

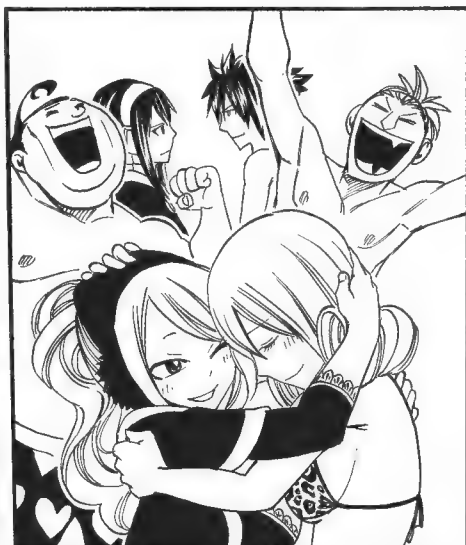


I don't get it at all!!

In other words, it will allow you to use your magic for a longer period of time, or use stronger magics you couldn't before.




My Arc of Time speeds up the development of that vessel, making it so you can use your second origin.



FAIRY TAIL



FAIRY TAIL	
Name:	Droy
Age:	25
Magic:	Plant
Likes:	Food
Dislikes:	Spiders
	

Remarks

Seven years ago, he was a thin wizard, but he awakened his love of food, and his body type changed before anybody noticed. During the period when his partner Jet had his girlfriends, he would try to act strong, saying, "Steak is my love interest!" to everyone who would listen. But his frustration resulted only in more weight gain. He fell in love a number of times, but when he tried to ask them out, they would always reject him. Now that Levy is back, his old feelings for her have returned, but he's also noticed that Levy may have fallen for Gajeel, and seeing that has resulted only in more weight gain.



Bringing
out latent
abilities is
not an easy
thing.



Ahh...
Merudy's
even telling
jokes!

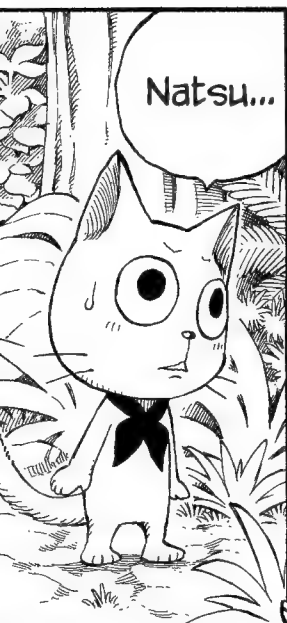
Don't
even *joke*
about
that!!

Would you
like to try
a Sense
Link?

How
painful is
that thing
supposed
to be?

Wait...
Are you
sure he's
going to be
okay?

Glimmer



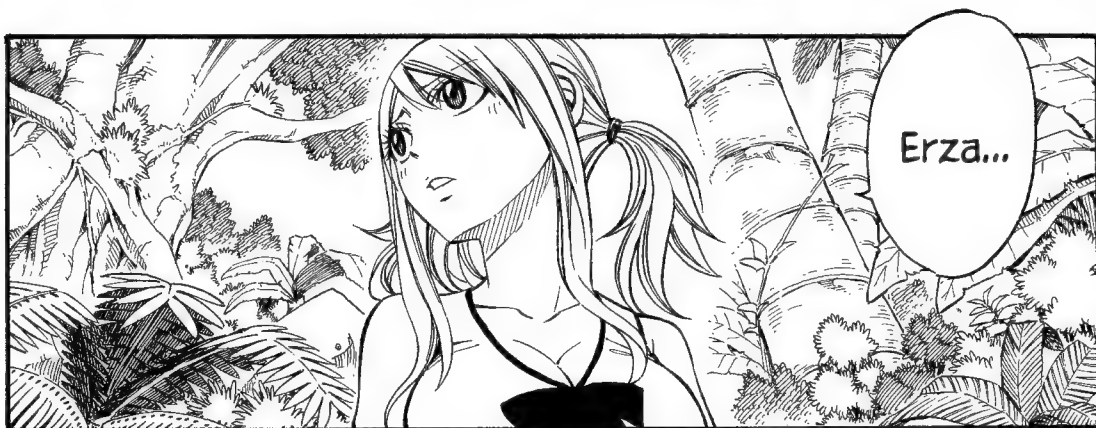
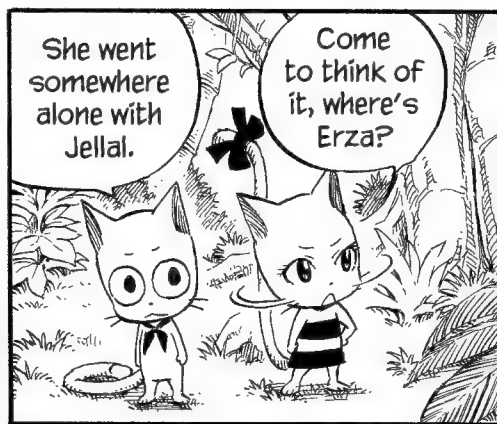
Natsu...

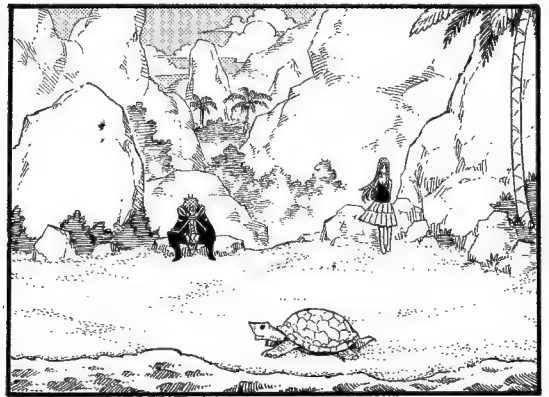
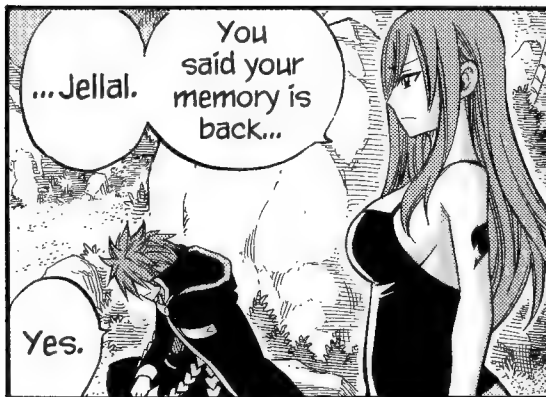
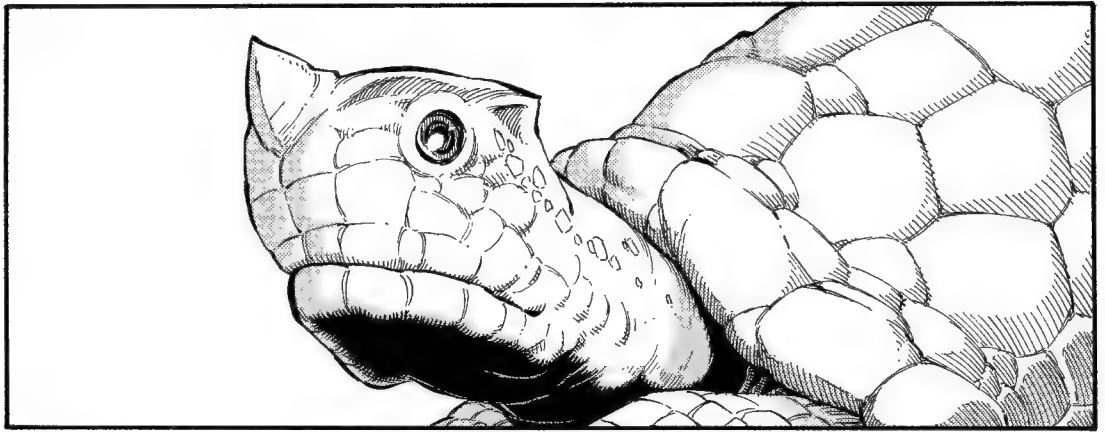


N-Nothing to
do with us!
We're going
home!

I think
I want
to cry!

You mean
we...have to
go through
that?





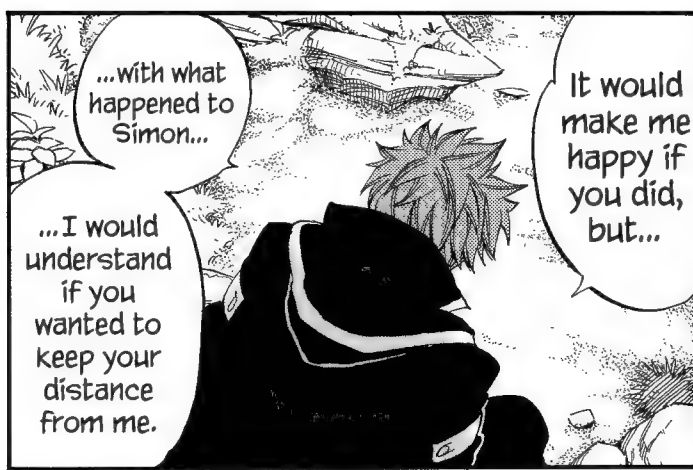


I remember it.

I remember it...as if it were a *self I had forgotten.*

It's a strange feeling.

What about everything that happened with Nirvana?



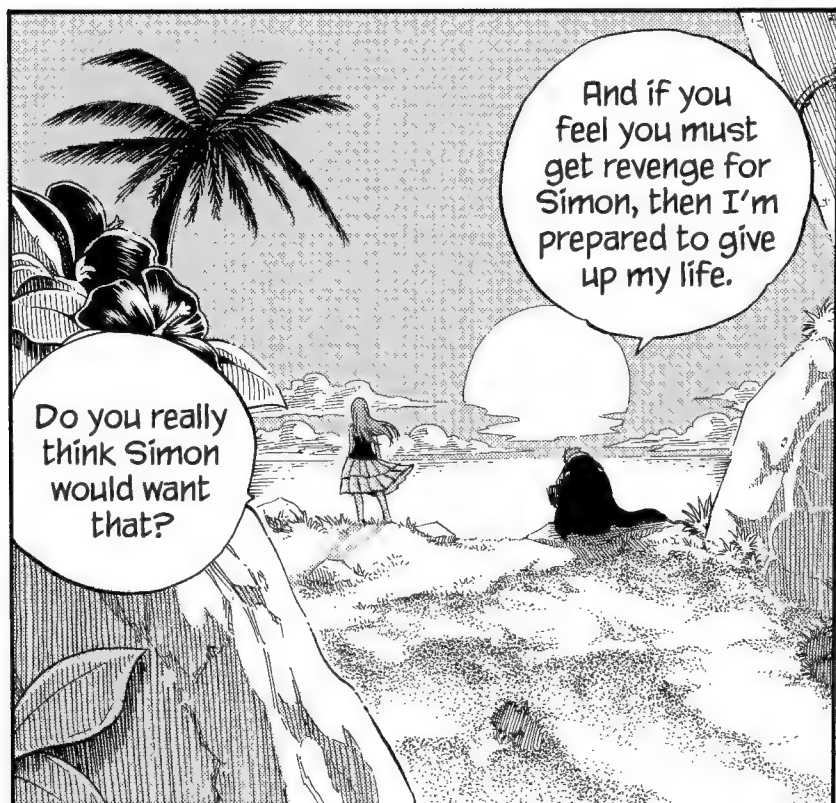
...with what happened to Simon...

...I would understand if you wanted to keep your distance from me.

It would make me happy if you did, but...



So I can think of you as your old self?



And if you feel you must get revenge for Simon, then I'm prepared to give up my life.

Do you really think Simon would want that?





You're set on doing that to right your wrongs, correct?

You set up a guild bent on trying to eliminate dark guilds.



But I'm beginning to think that nothing can make up for the atrocities I committed at the Tower of Heaven.

It's true that at first, I set up Crime Sorcière to help pay for my crimes.



What?!



I don't really know.

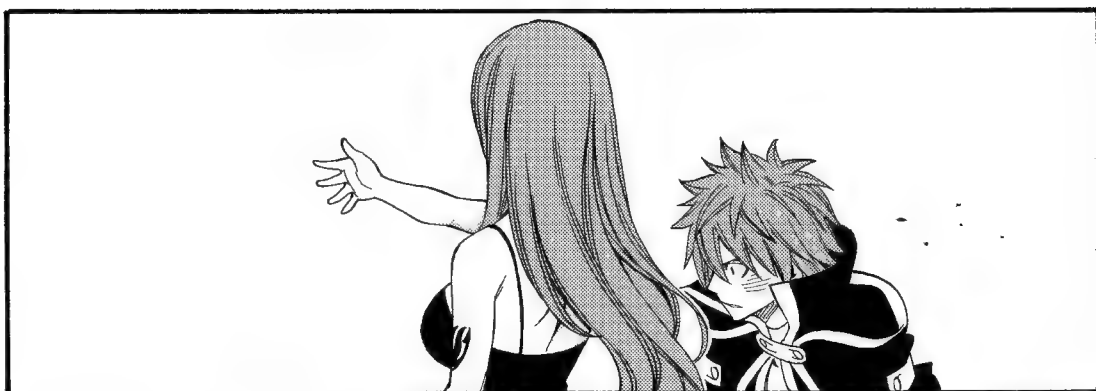


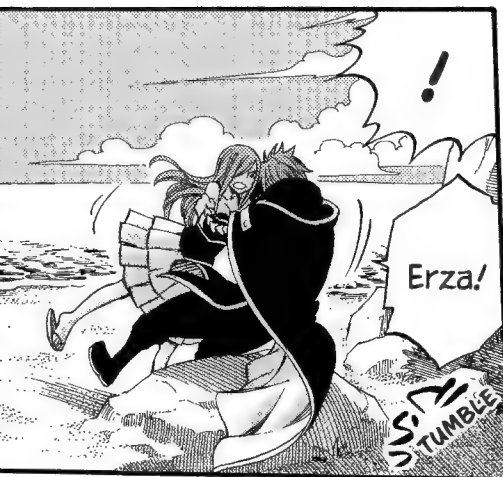
I think that perhaps I should die after all.

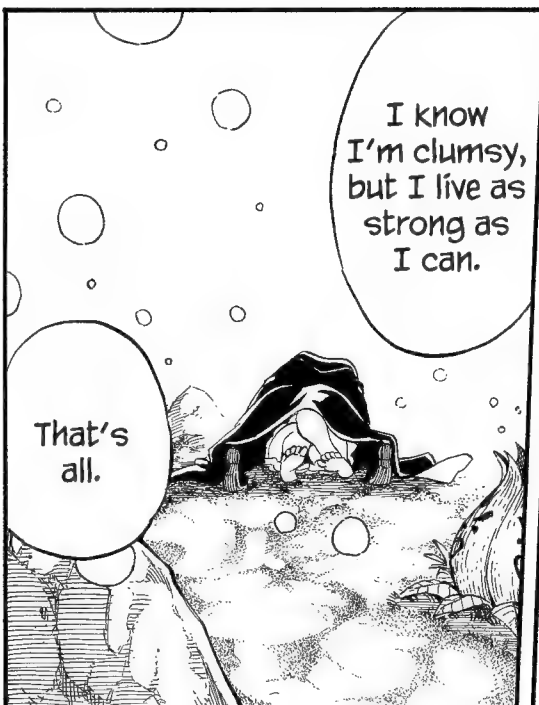


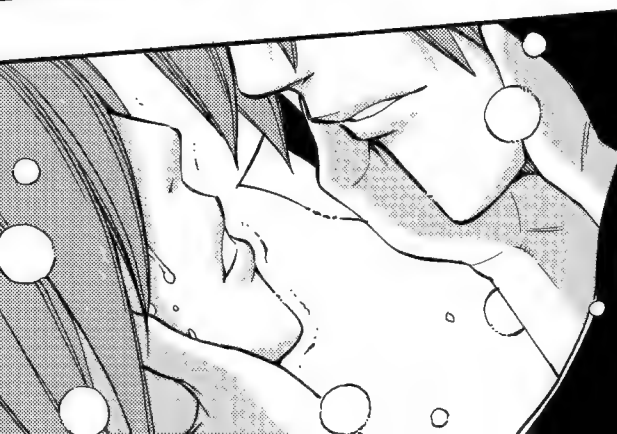
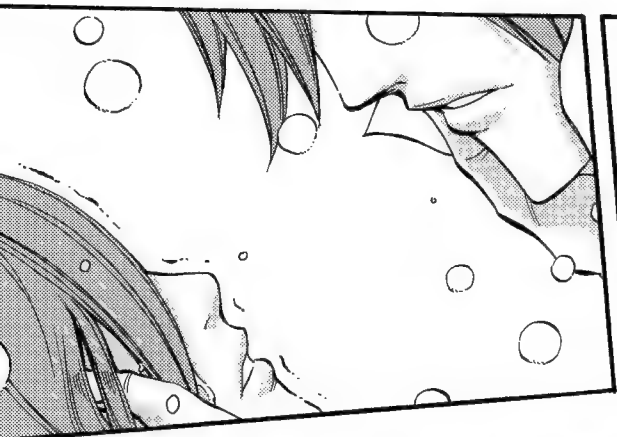
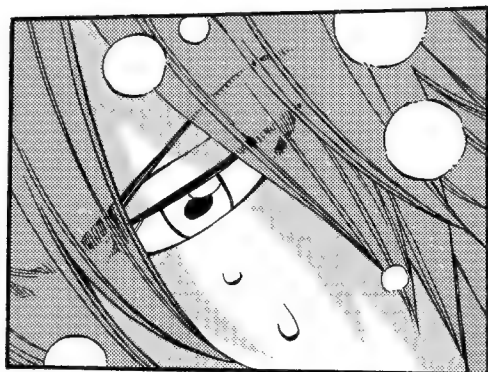
I've started to wonder what I'm doing any of this for.

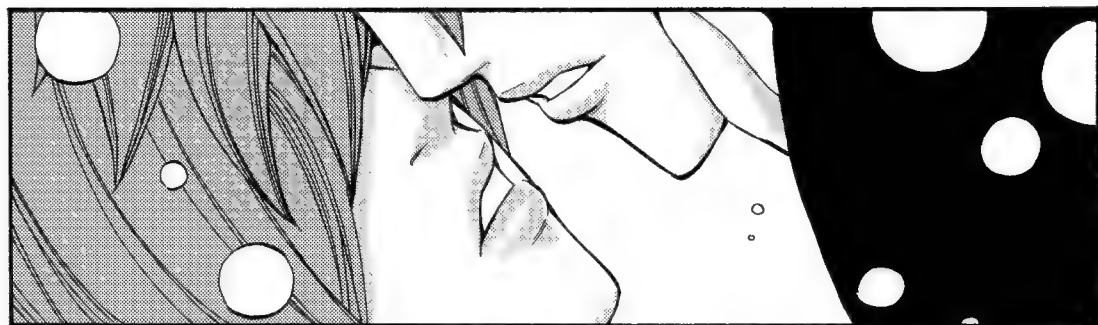
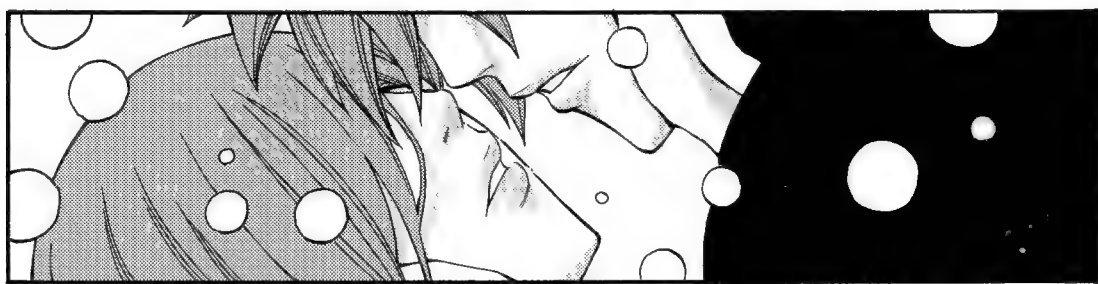
And I can't seem to find a way out of the maze those thoughts put me in.



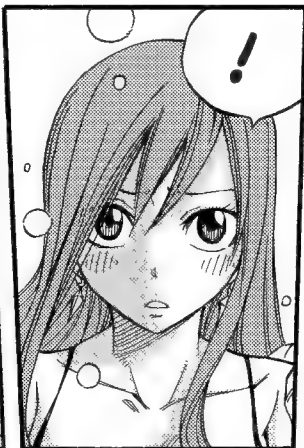


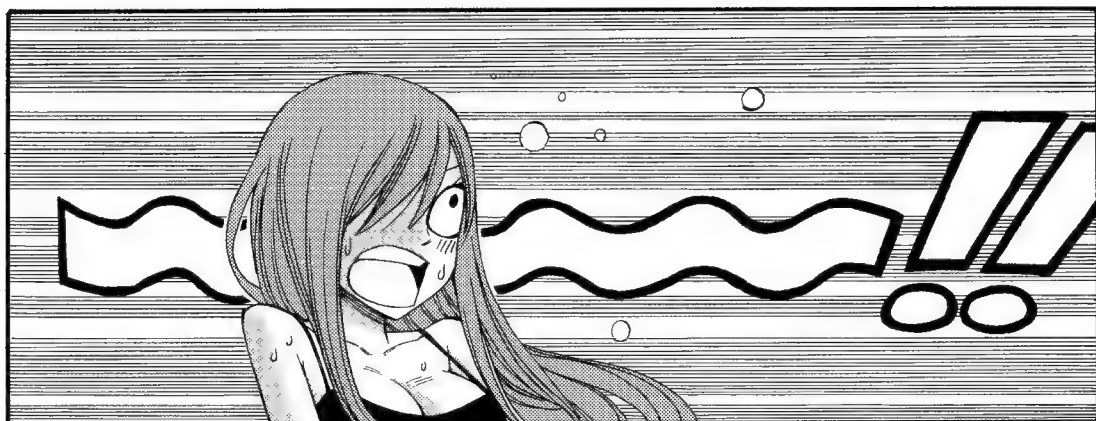














That's true...



Why are *you* doing just fine?

They will not be able to move anytime soon, thanks to you.

Uhhh ...

Raaa...

Ohh ...

Oh...

AAAAA!!

GYAAAAHH!!

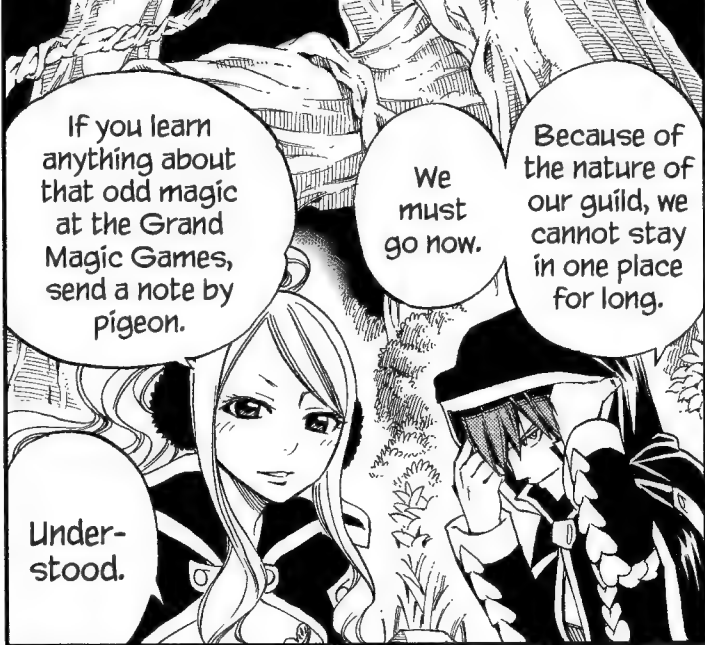


Although we'd really like to see it in person.

We'll be rooting for you to win the games. Give it your best.

Maybe you could go in disguise?

Let's not talk about that.

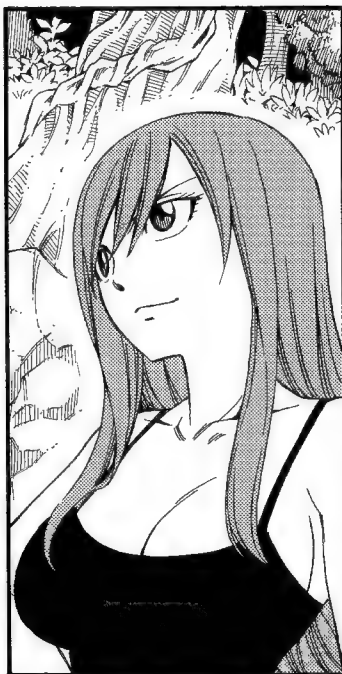


If you learn anything about that odd magic at the Grand Magic Games, send a note by pigeon.

We must go now.

Because of the nature of our guild, we cannot stay in one place for long.

Understood.

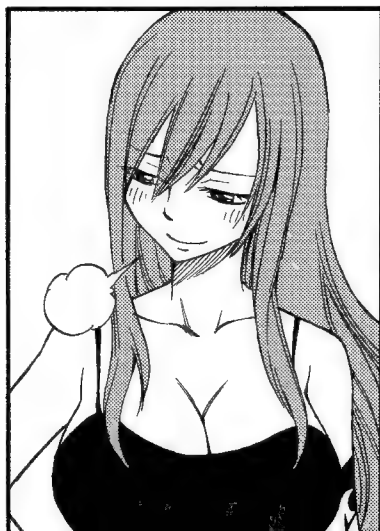


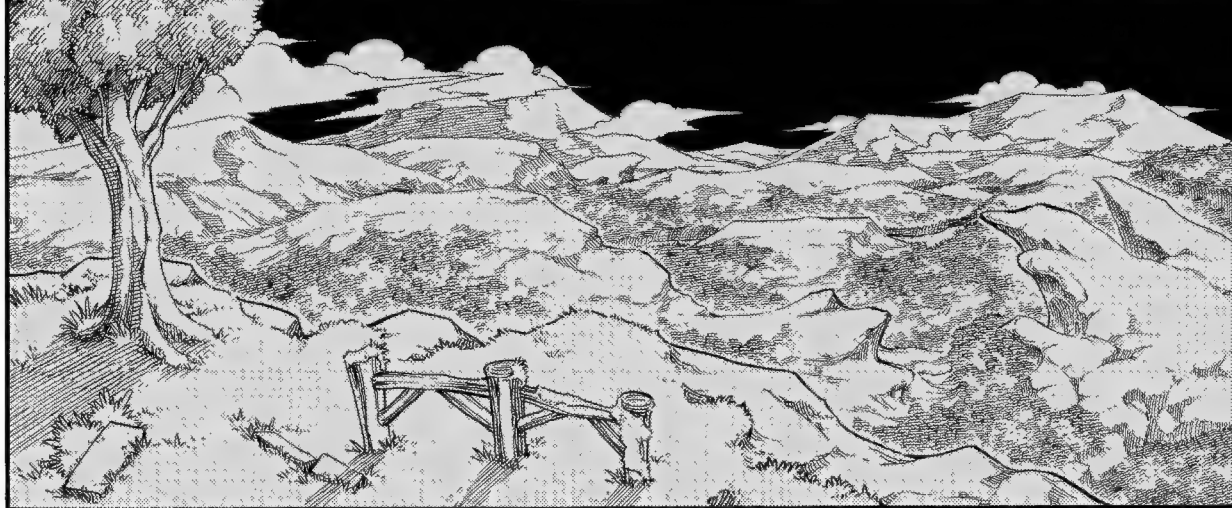
Give our best to the others.

And look after Gray for me.

Bye-bye!

I hope we meet again, Erza.





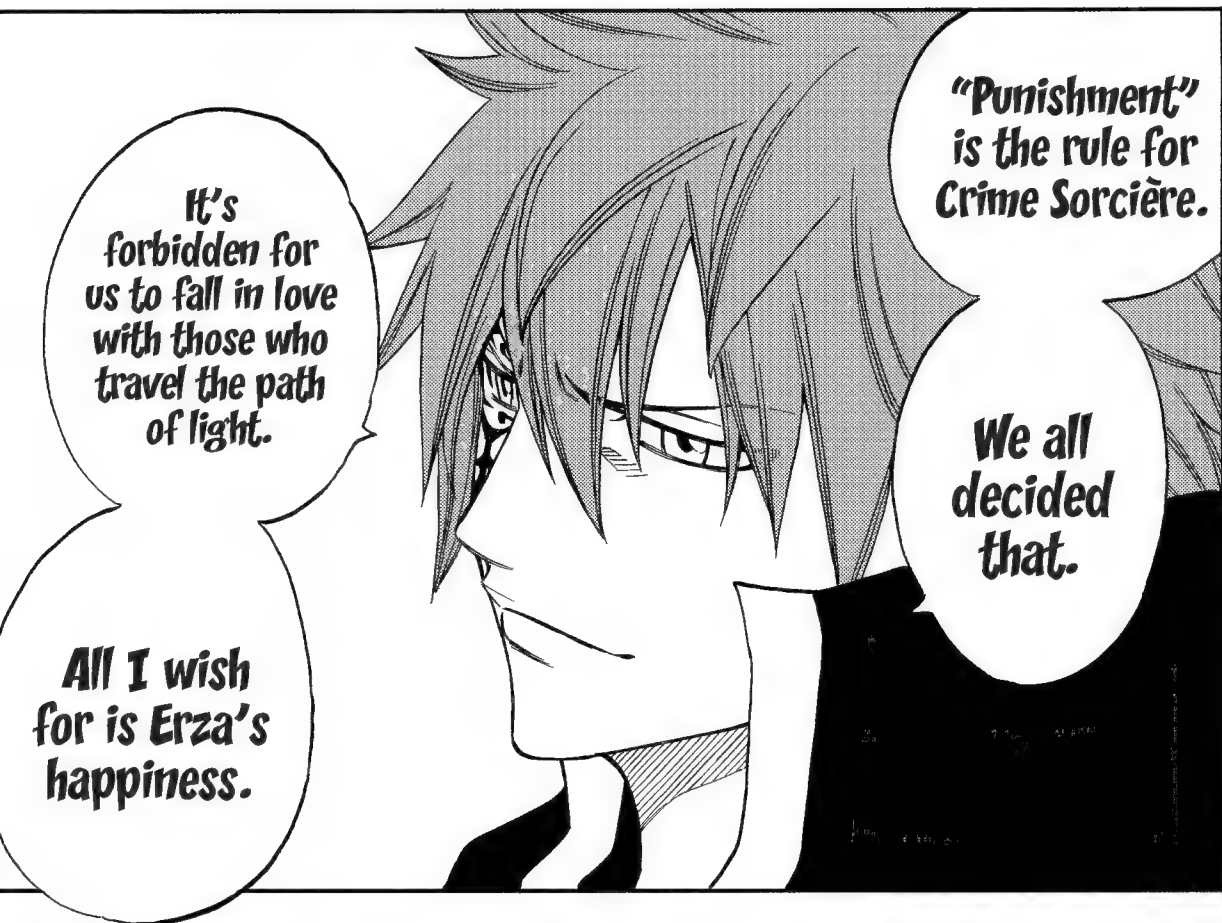


Or
are you
punishing
yourself?

You can
afford to
be a little
nicer to
yourself.



...



It's
forbidden for
us to fall in love
with those who
travel the path
of light.

"Punishment"
is the rule for
Crime Sorcière.

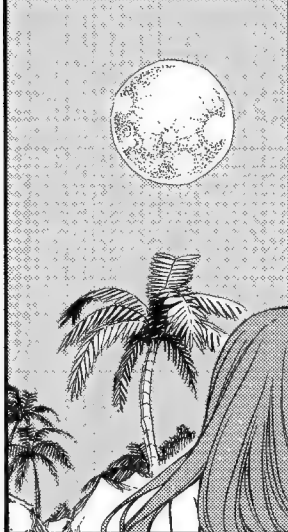
**We all
decided
that.**

**All I wish
for is Erza's
happiness.**



What a
loser! Why's
he trying to
make himself
look cool like
that?

...Even so,
couldn't he
come up
with a more
convincing
lie?

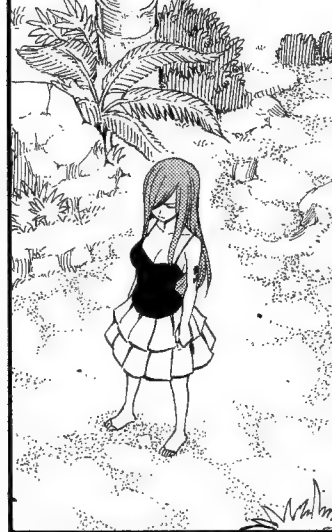


He's
always
been a
bad liar.

At
least
that
part
hasn't
changed.

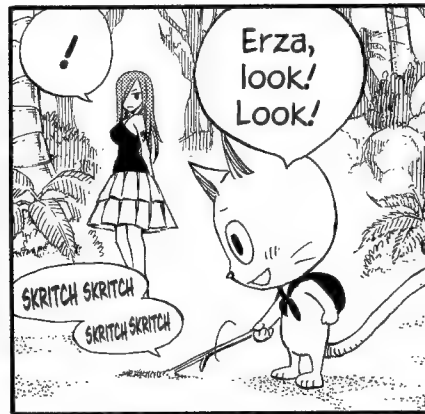
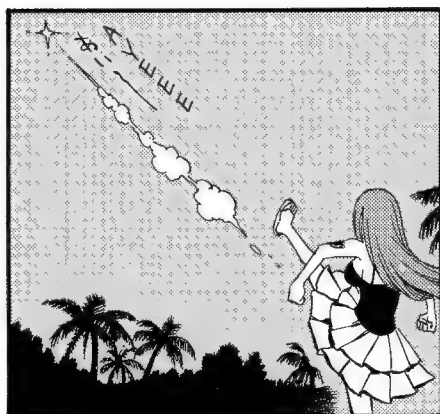


A
fiancée
...?



This
is our
answer.

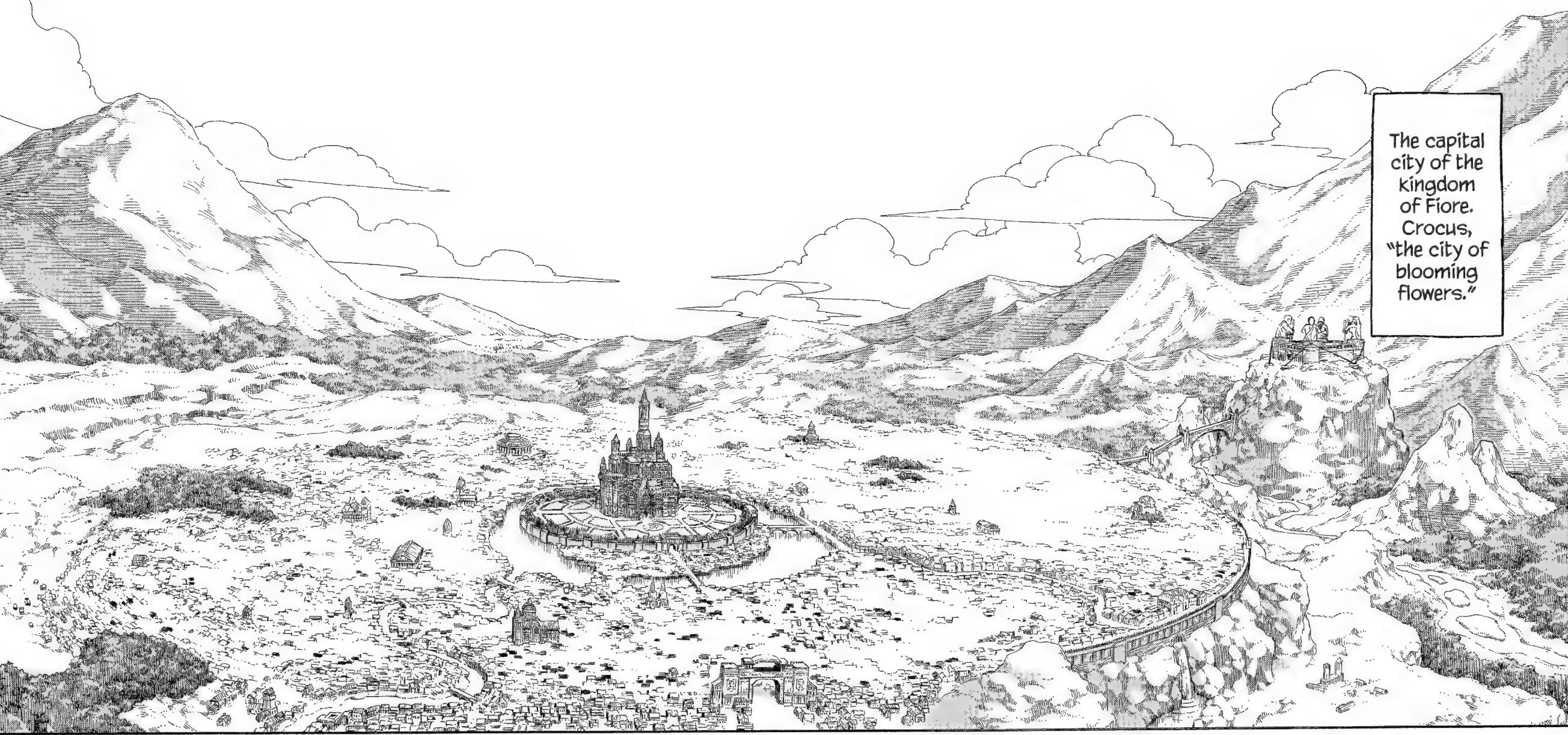
It's
better
this
way.



Erza,
look!
Look!

SKRITCH SKRITCH
SKRITCH SKRITCH

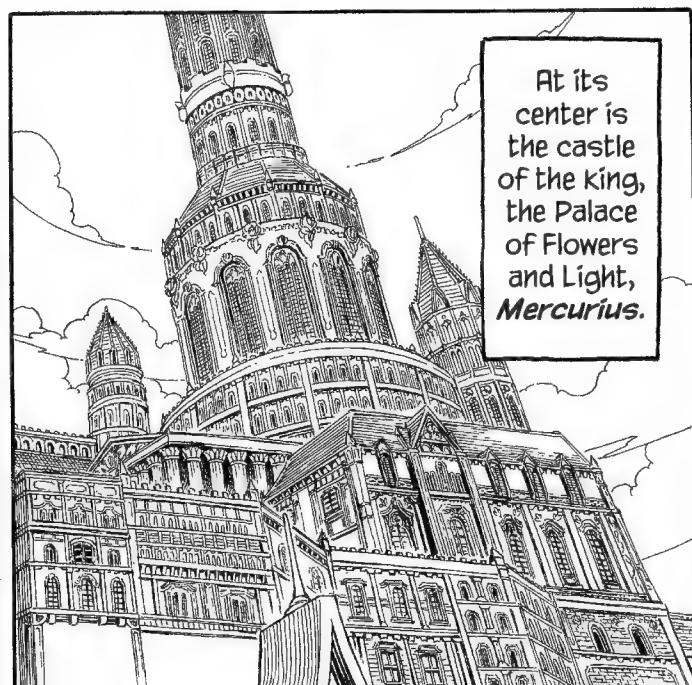




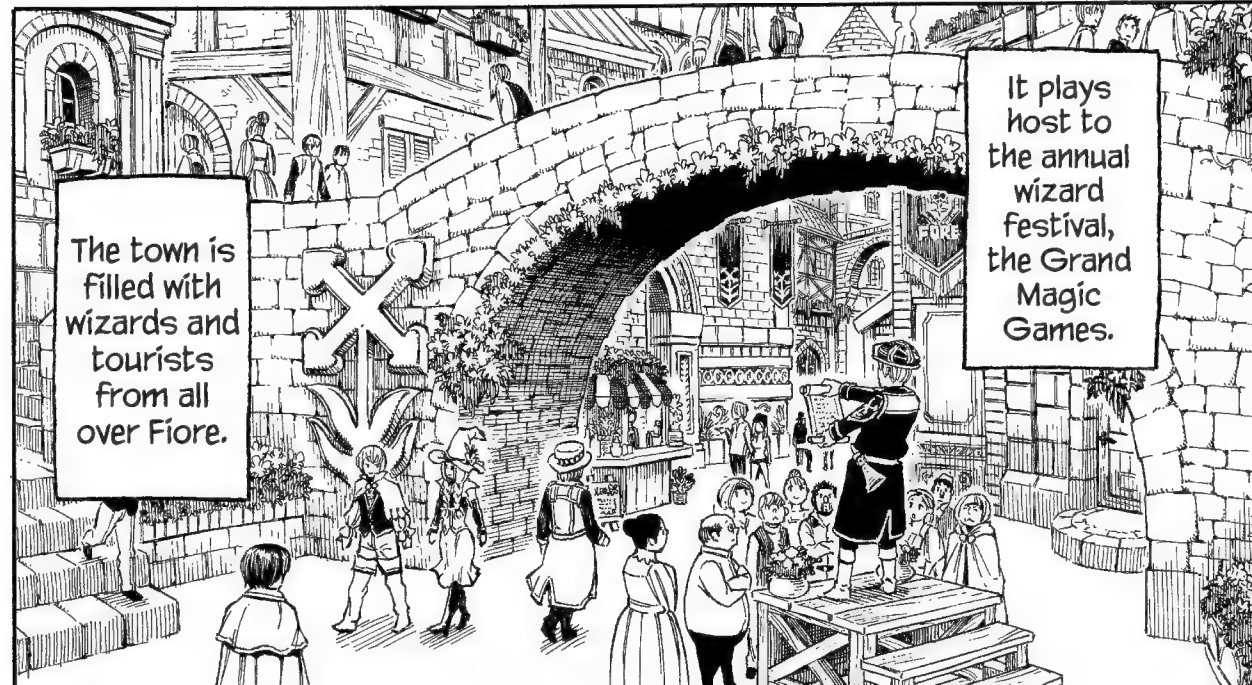
The capital city of the kingdom of Fiore. Crocus, "the city of blooming flowers."



And on a hill to the west, the stadium for the Grand Magic Games, the *Doms Frau*.



At its center is the castle of the king, the Palace of Flowers and Light, *Mercurius*.



The town is filled with wizards and tourists from all over Fiore.

It plays host to the annual wizard festival, the Grand Magic Games.



And at the center of town... us.



You people are pathetic!

I'll bet she was already using her second origin.

Why don't *you* feel it, Erza?

I'll buy that.

Are we sure that magic was all right ...?

H-Hey... I still feel terrible...

Though my joints still hurt.

I feel like I have more magic.



So
you're
all
finally
here!

Master!



Aye!

It's
my first
experience
also.

It's even
bigger than
the Edolas
capital!

Come to
think of it, this
is the first
time I've ever
been in a city
this big!



Ah ha ha ha!
Now we show
the world
the power of
Fairy Tail!

We've
done all
the reg-
istration
work.



We all
know that
Saber
Tooth is
gonna
win!

あははは
あははは
あははは

They're
bound to
rank last
again this
year!

Grrrr
...



Stop!

Who was
laughing
?!

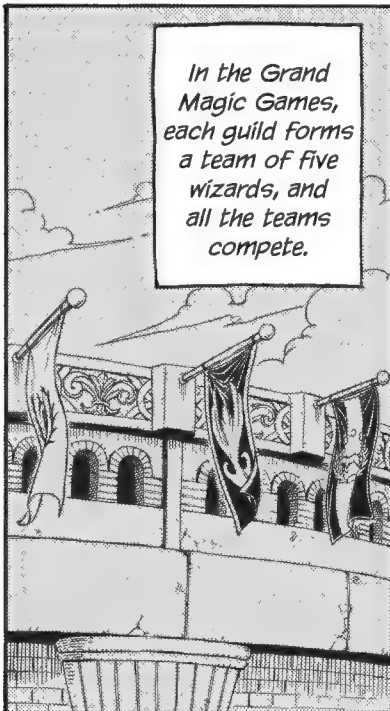
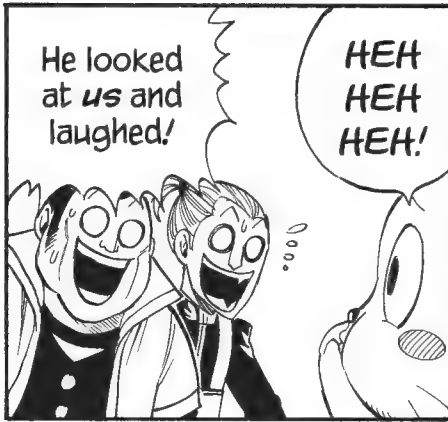


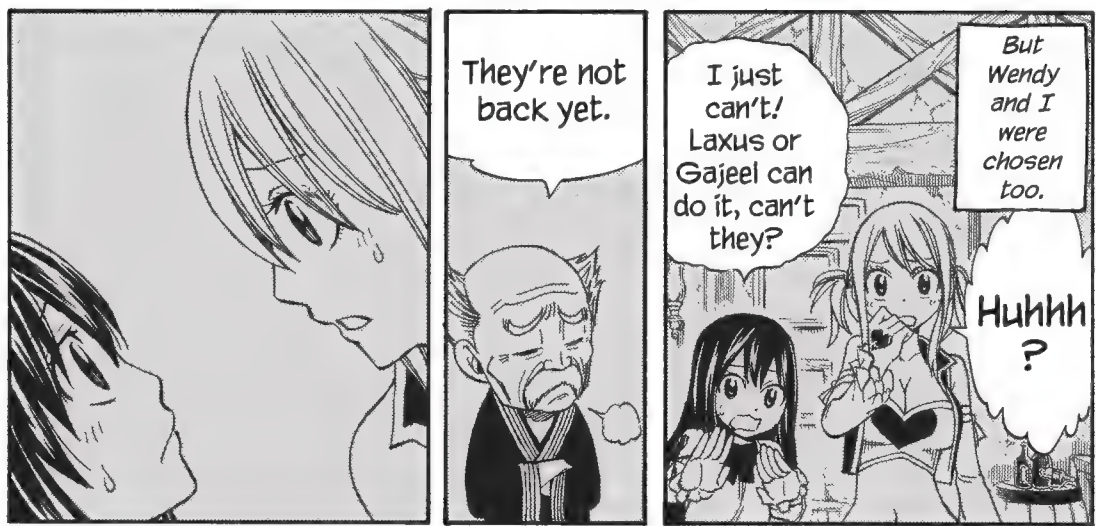
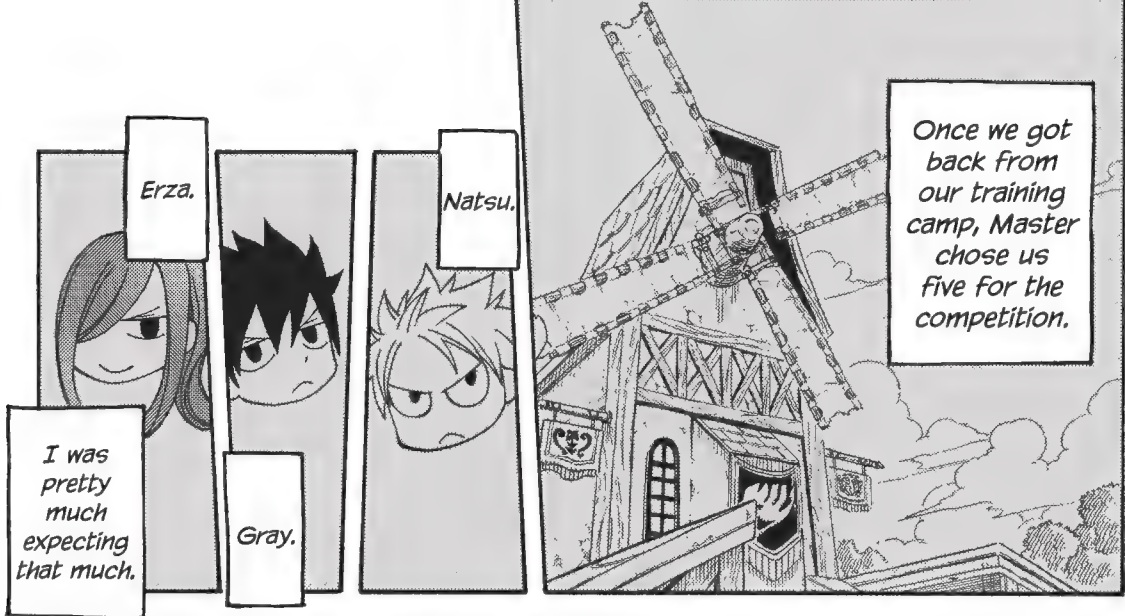
The
worst guild!
Always
losing!

BA HA
HA!

Those
guys?

Hey! That
guy just
said, "Fairy
Tail!"







To summarize, there are three major points to be aware of.



Leave that to me! I've got my Gale-Force Reading Glasses!

That's
our
Levy!

Erza, read the official rulebook by tomorrow, okay?

FWUM

Y-You're
telling me
to read
this?

The type of competition and goals are kept secret, and the rules are only revealed just prior to the competition itself.

Yeah...
That's
pretty
obvious
too.

Anybody
without a
guild mark
is forbidden
from taking
part.

Yes... I figured that.

First,
no guild
master may
participate.

It's like that princess with the glass slippers, huh?

They mean tonight by midnight, right?

Mid-
night of
when?

Mid-
night?

Which means we've got all the time in the world!!

"All contestants must be in their reserved inns by midnight."

Oh!
And at the
end, there's
a warning.



Aye,
Sir!!

Now that
we're here
in this huge
town, let's
check it
out!!



Mid-
night
...

Re-
served
inns...



Make sure
you are back
by midnight!!
Got it?!

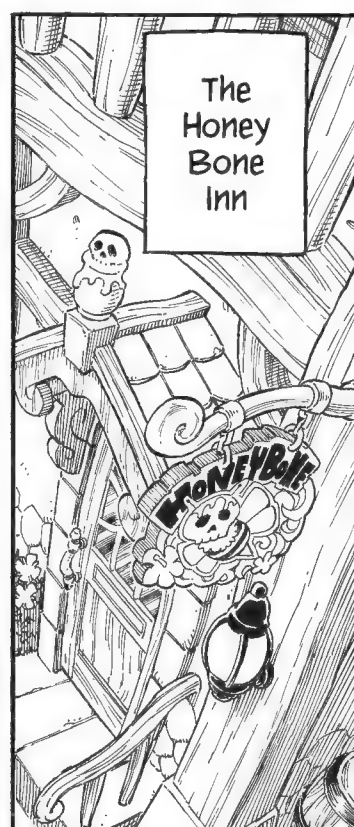
Honey
Bone,
right?

Hey!!
You know
where our
inn is,
right?

Aye!

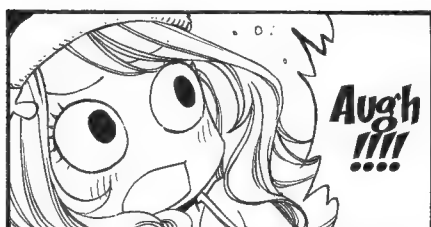


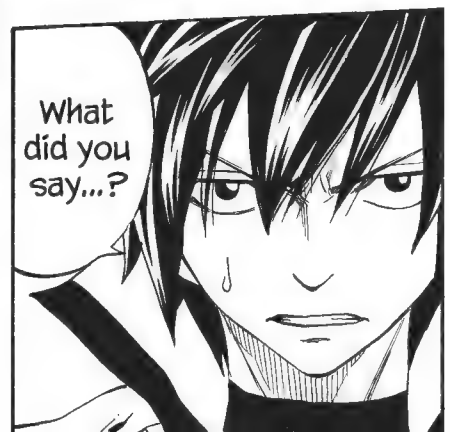
So this
is our
room?

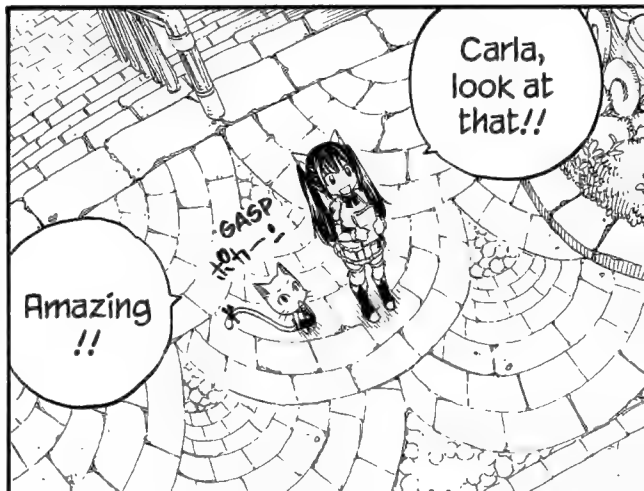


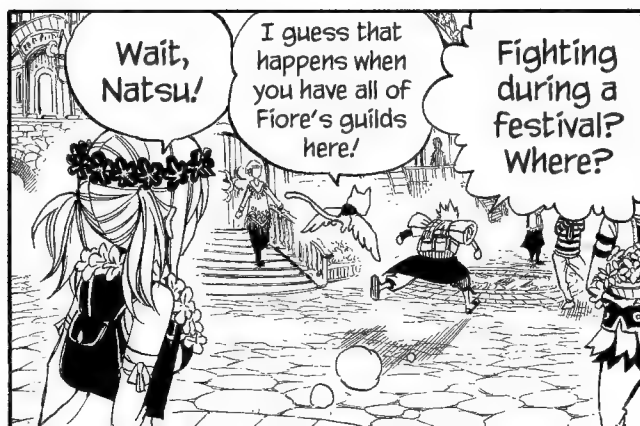
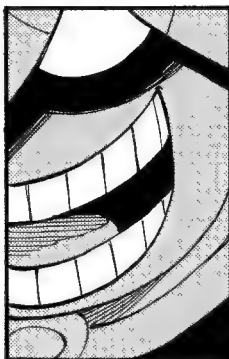
The
Honey
Bone
Inn











chatter chatter
CHATTER CHATTER

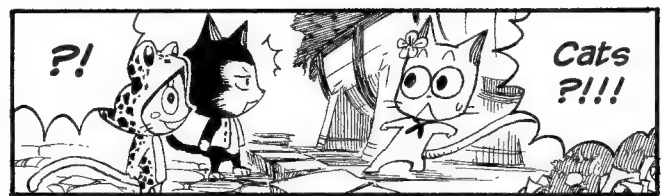
chatter chatter
CHATTER CHATTER


Anybody up
for some
more?

Not even
worth
talking
about!
Yeah.

Fro
thinks
so also.







Then why do they call you a dragon slayer, anyway?

Huh?

You're the dragon slayer who couldn't slay a dragon... Acnologia. Right?



Dragon slayers?!!
You two?



I was simply curious as a fellow dragon slayer.

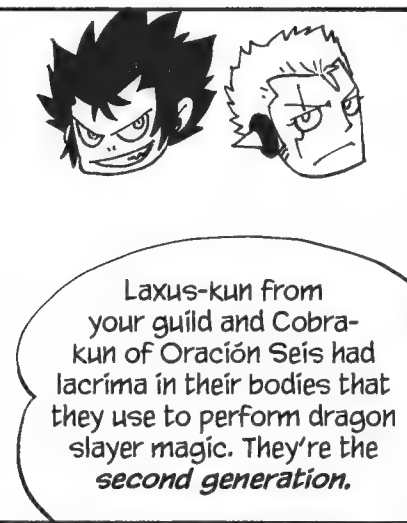
By the way, he liked Gajeel.

And here I looked up to you a long time back.



How about you call us *true* dragon slayers?

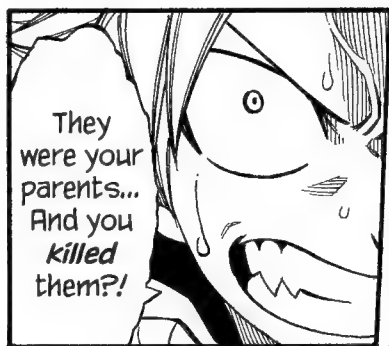
We can take down Acnologia, you know.



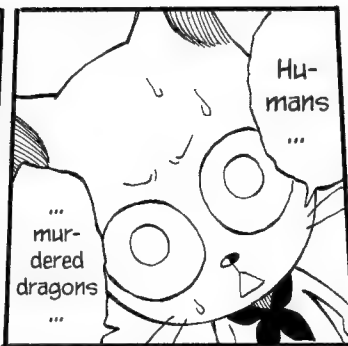


**We
did it to
become
true
dragon
slayers.**

**We took
the dragons
who taught us
dragon slayer
magic and finished
them off with our
own hands.**



They
were your
parents...
And you
killed
them?!



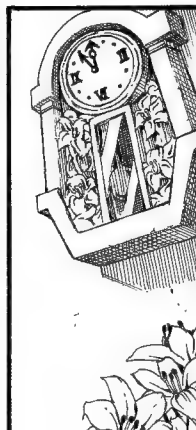
Hu-
mans
...
...mur-
dered
dragons
...



You
killed...
dragons
?!



They're
late.




FAIRY TAIL

Chapter 266: Sky Labyrinth



FAIRY TAIL	
Name:	Max Alors
Age:	24
Magic:	Sandstorm
Likes:	Bars
Dislikes:	Being alone



Remarks

One of his favorite things in the world is talking to people, so while the Sirius Island group was gone, the number of people in the guild decreased, and this pained him. Before, he'd work the guild's gift shop, plan and run events, talk to the public and do master-of-ceremonies work, but as the guild got weaker, his constant talk was reduced a little bit. The people around him started to think he had finally quieted down, but when the Sirius Island group came back, his motor mouth returned.



Listen,
you!



Where have
you been all
this time?

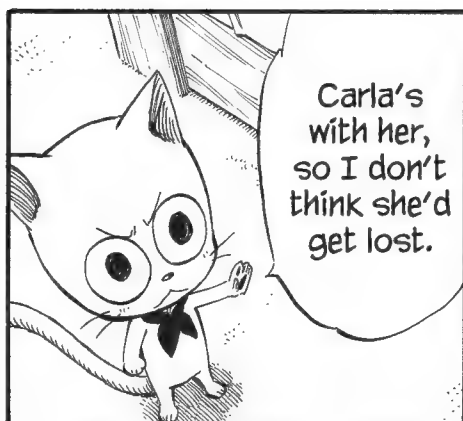
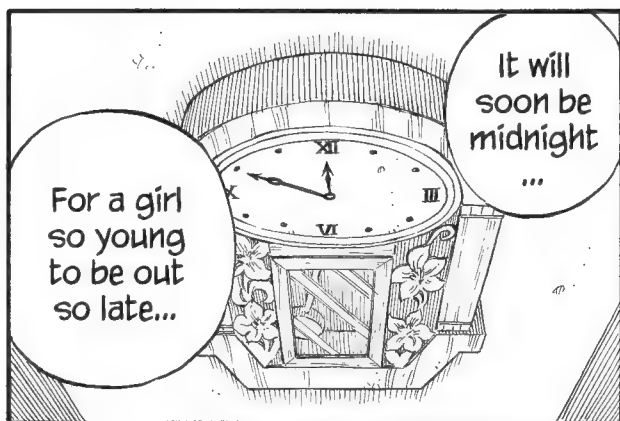


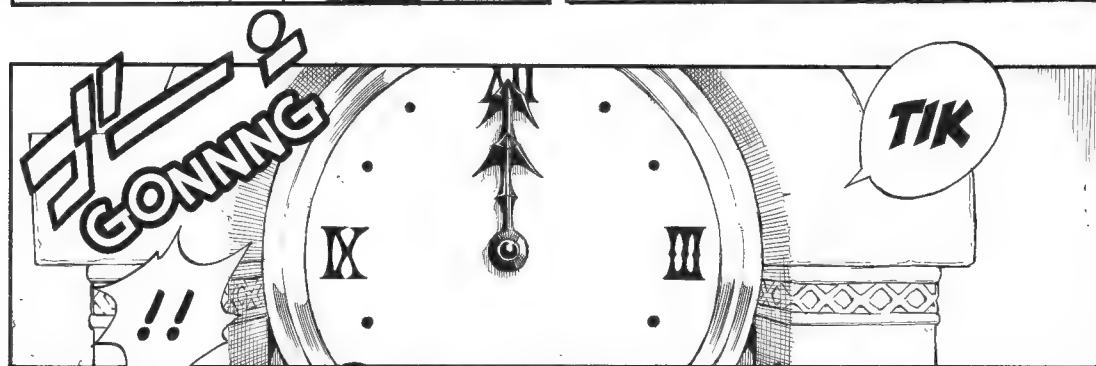
We found
ourselves
involved with
some weird
people.

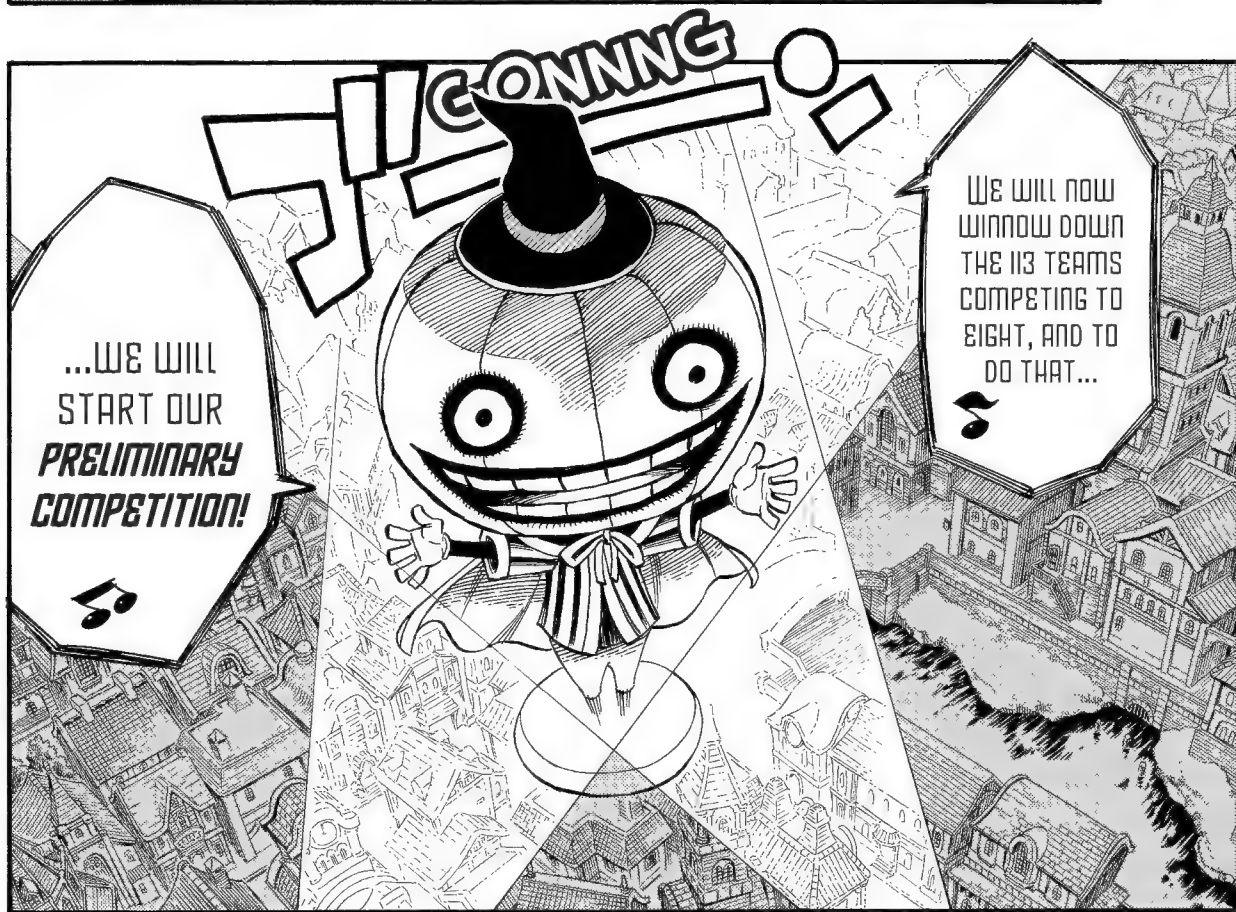
Or maybe
we involved
ourselves...

Having
dinner, and
not enjoying
it one bit...











And they're going to take 113 teams and narrow it down to eight?

So midnight was the time when the prelims start?



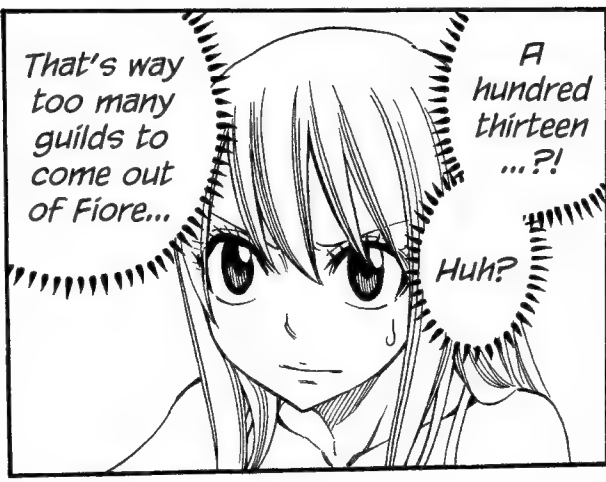
No... What is *this*?

Did they have preliminaries in the previous games?



I have a bad feeling about this.

If they're having preliminaries, they should have warned us ahead of time.



That's way too many guilds to come out of Fiore...

A hundred thirteen...?!

Huh?



THE CONTEST RULES ARE SIMPLE!!!



SO THIS YEAR, THE COMPETITION WILL BE BETWEEN EIGHT TEAMS ONLY!

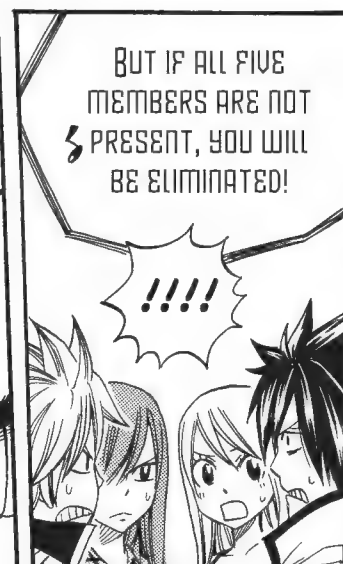
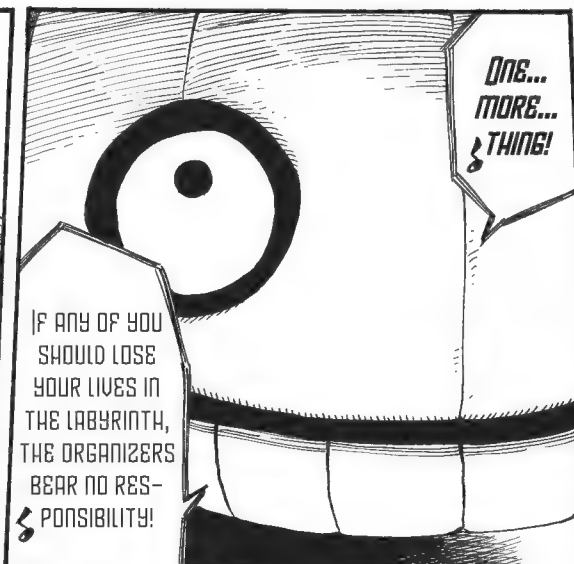
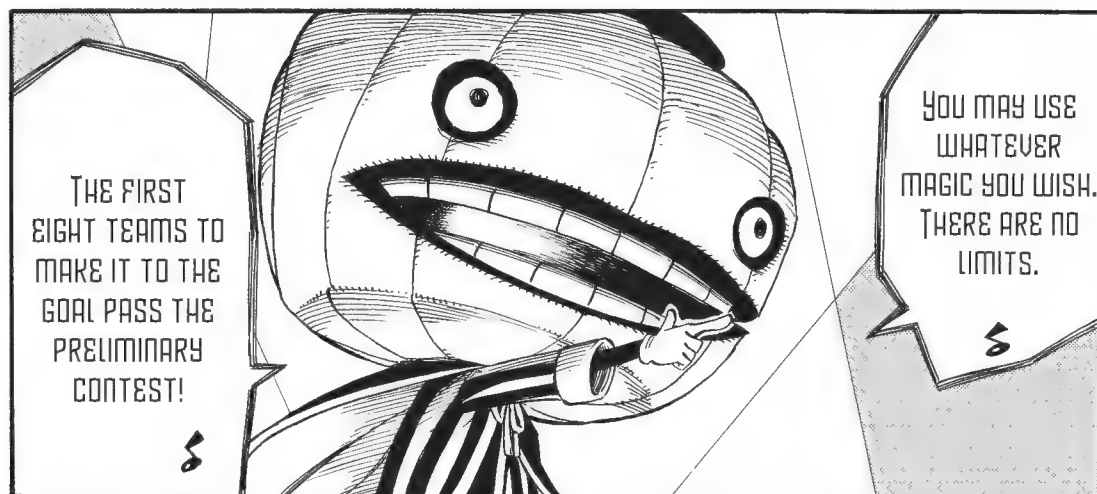


THERE ARE MORE AND MORE GUILDS PARTICIPATING EVERY YEAR, AND WE DON'T WANT TO SPREAD THE FUN TOO THIN!



Too many guilds... An "odd magic"... Are there suspicious hidden sponsors?





We have to go through that and head to the goal, right?

What's *that* supposed to be?!

Wait!

Since it's a *race*, we'd better hurry!

Wendy !!!!

Wendy is missing!

We need to get to the goal with *all five members!!*

...a *man* is here!!!!

Even if Wendy isn't here...

BEGIN

!!!!

LET THE PRELIMINARY CONTEST TO THE GRAND MAGIC GAMES, THE SKY LABYRINTH...





Elf!!!

It's a
member
substitution
!!!!

HUHHH
?!!!



Lisanna!!
Happy!!



We're
counting
on you,
Elfman!!

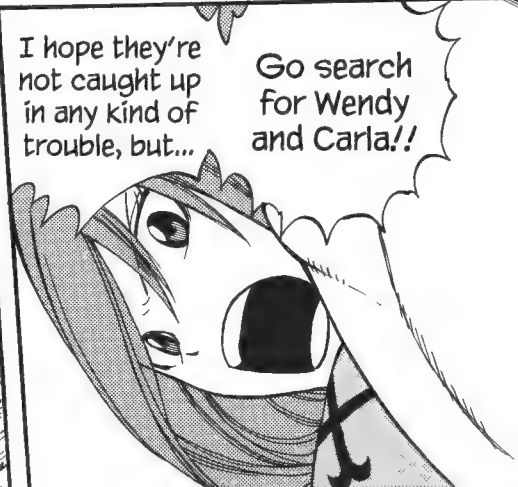
Leave
it to
me!!!

I don't see
another choice...
We don't have
time to waste
waiting for
Wendy.



Give it
your best,
everybody!!

I will!! I'll call
in a bunch of
guild members
to help!



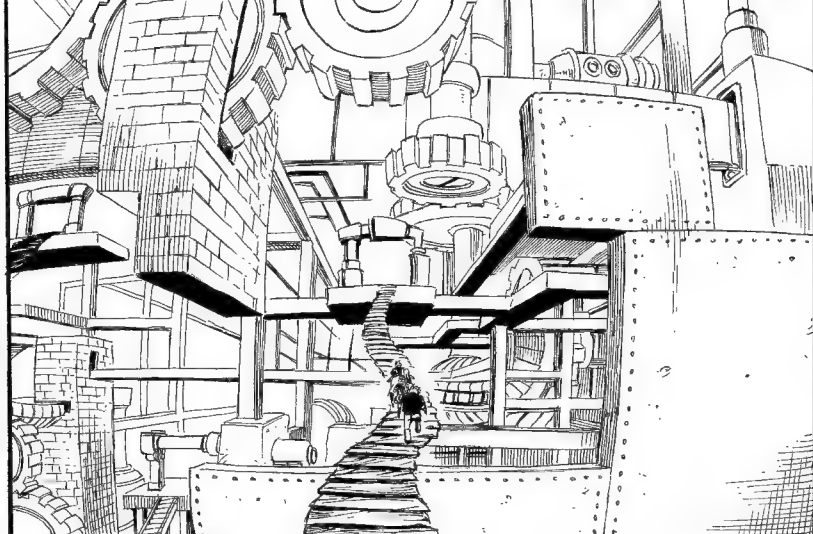
I hope they're
not caught up
in any kind of
trouble, but...

Go search
for Wendy
and Carla!!



It's
the gate
to the
maze!

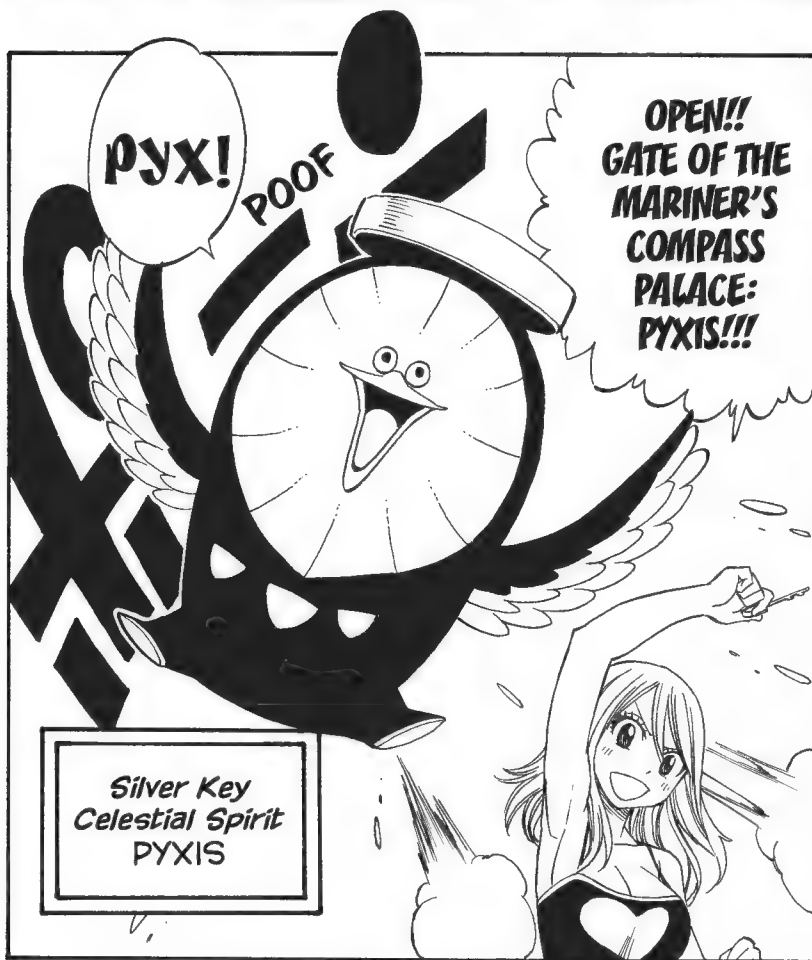
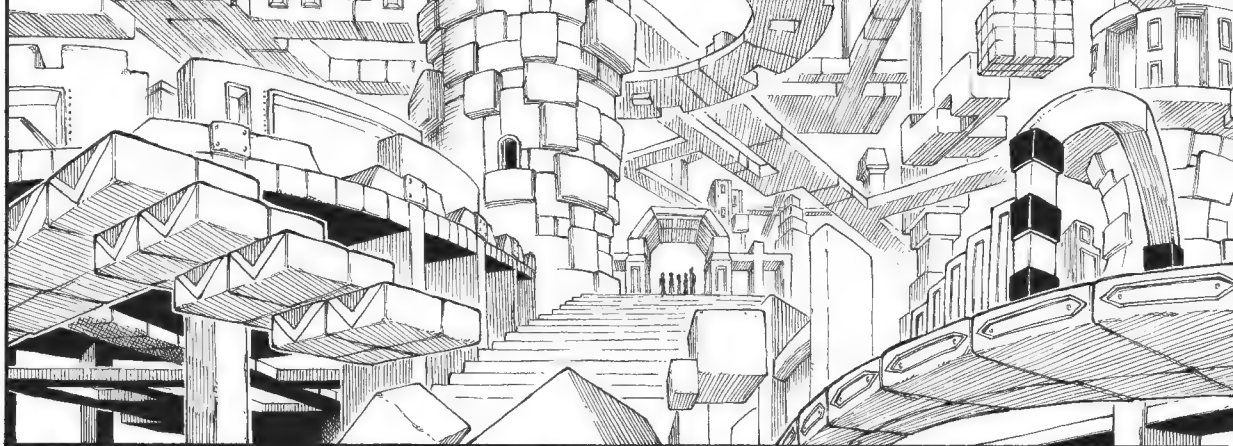
Nope!
It's our
gateway to
becoming
Fiore's top
guild!!!



**Team
Fairy
Tail...**

**Let's
go
!!!!**

VOOM



Gaah!! I stink at these kinda things!!!

The insides have turned into a 3-D maze, huh?

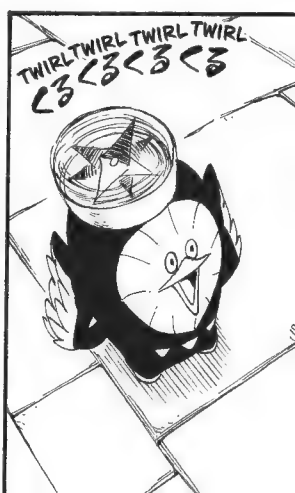
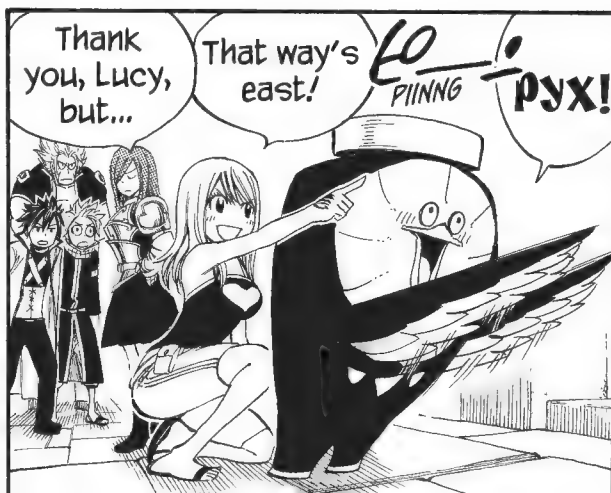


We basically must work our way east. The stadium is to the east.

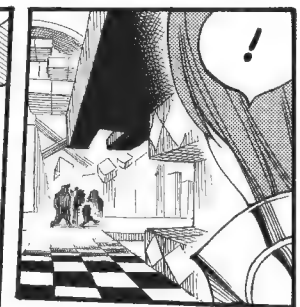
Then leave that to me!!



I already have a compass.



THIRLTHIRLTHIRLTHIRL
C3C3C3C3





**You're
in our
way!!!!**

What
?!

KARANG

KARANG

KATAK
KATAK

Urp!

Kya

The
earth... I
mean...



RUNNIN'BBLE

**The whole
labyrinth is
rotating
!!!!**





Guys,
you've all
got a scary
look in your
eyes...

That makes
sense! I think I
begin to see the
meaning behind
this preliminary
test!



This isn't a
contest, it's
war!!! This
is a *man's*
Map-Theft
Battle!!!!

Let's get
the maps
of all the
other guys
too!!!!



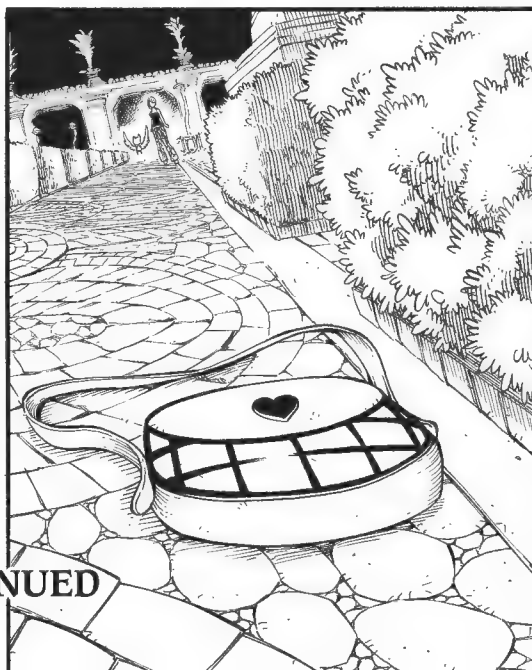
It's
yours
!

I'll
take
that.



When
you're talking
battle, you're
talking our
specialty!!!!





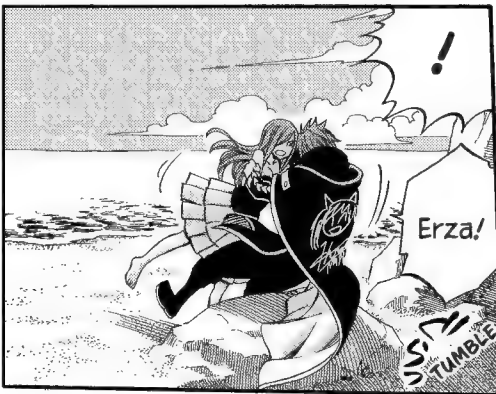
TO BE CONTINUED

BONUS PAGES



Spot the Differences

The drawings below look just like page 139! But when you look closer, something's different...



There are a total of 10 differences! Can you find them all?

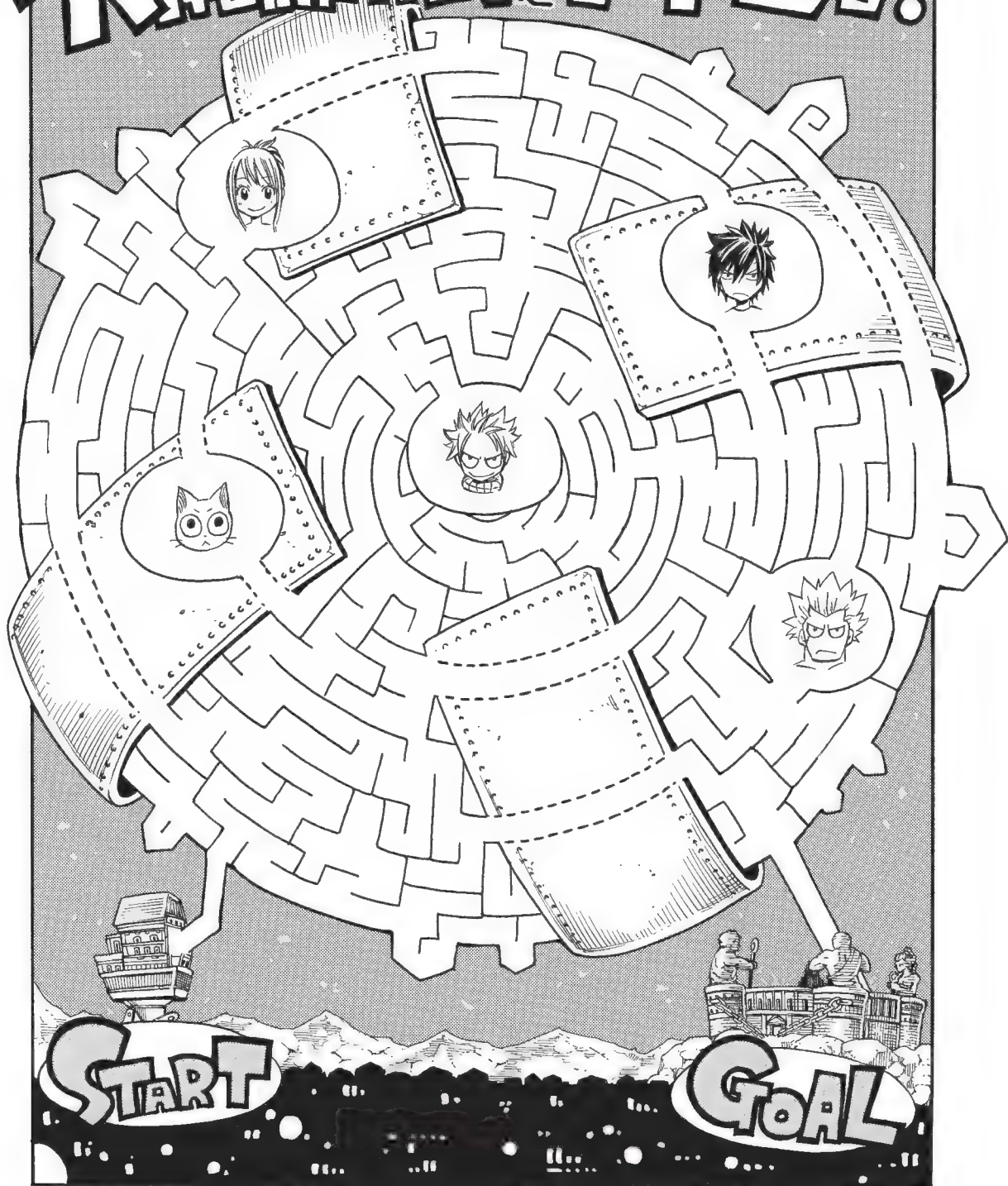
Preliminary Contest

Sky Labyrinth!

GRAND MAGIC GAMES

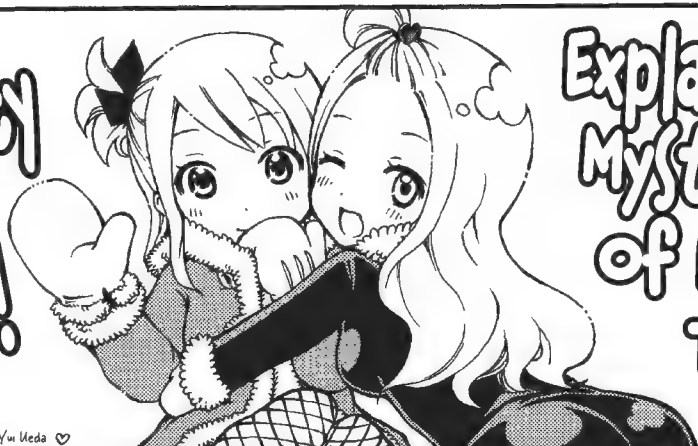
大魔闘演武空中迷宮!

予選



Can you make it from the Start to the Goal?

Emergency
Request!



Explain the
Mysteries
of Fairy
Tail!

Illustrated by Yui Ueda

At the Fairy Tail counter...



: Wow! ♡ What a cute picture!



: It isn't one of Mashima-sensei's, you know.

Lucy: It looks like it was drawn by one member of his staff, Ueda.

Mira: It's kind of nice to have one of these once in a while.



: Although I get the feeling it's just Mashima getting lazy.

Mira: Okay, shall we start with the questions?

Why is
Master
Mavis so
young?



Lucy: This question came up a lot!

Mira: Sure, there are a lot of questions about her, but ever since the last volume, she's had a lot of pictures sent into Guild d'Art too! ♡

Lucy: That tells you how popular her character is, huh?

Mira: Now, they asked why Master Mavis looks so young, so...

Lucy: So...?

Mira: We don't know yet.

Lucy: Huhhh?!!

Mira: So far, nothing in the main story or the side stories have touched upon the subject yet.



: I get it. He just hasn't thought up an answer yet, huh?



Actually Mavis's background was part of the very first concepts, and there may (or may not) have been something there to surprise the readers.

Lucy: Really? Now you've got me interested!

Mira: But!

Lucy: There's a "but"?



: Even though we've let that slip, the surprise may never enter the story.

Lucy: That's no good!! That'll make the readers angry for sure!! If you're going to drop those hints here, then do the story!! You'd better, got it?

Continued on the right-hand page.

Continued from the left-hand page.

Mira: On to the next question.

With seven years having passed, what's happened to Master Hades, Rusty, and Kain?



Lucy: That's one thing I want to know too!

Mira: A similar question, "What happened to Zeref," is coming in a lot too.

Lucy: But won't people find out for themselves before too long?

Mira: That's true. Let's just say, "expect some fun when we get there!"

Lucy: And since it may have some relation to the question above, here's this question.

Zeref's
character
and back-
ground
aren't really
clear to me.



Mira:

Lucy:



: Come to think of it, he does seem like a complicated character.

Lucy: When he was supposed to be asleep, he was actually awake all the time.

Mira: When he wants to preserve a life, he unconsciously takes the life instead.

Mira: And to keep that from happening, he has to forget the weight of human life.

Lucy: A pretty amazing character.

Mira: It's still a long time until what is behind his character will be revealed, but apparently we're allowed to give one hint.

Lucy: Allowed by who?

Mira: Mashima-sensei.



: I hope his editor doesn't get mad at him for it.

Mira: He says that he's using a particular trick in regards to Zeref's existence.

Lucy: Trick? What's that supposed to mean?

Mira: I can't say any more than that. But it seems that Mashima-sensei has taken the unusual step of deciding on things like Zeref's secret past and loads of other small details.



: Eh? Isn't that jumping past proper procedure?

Mira: He says he'll do whatever it takes if it's to surprise the readers! So look forward to some good twists!

Lucy: Hmm... Isn't this exactly the same as the answer to the Mavis question?



: Well, with Zeref, he's sure that's he's going to draw it someday!



: But I want to know about Mavis too!

Send to Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics
451 Park Ave. South, 7th Floor New York, NY 10016

The Fairy Tail Guild is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a postcard or at postcard size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! ♪ Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!

FAIRY TAIL GUILD d'ART

Aomori Prefecture, Fūrant



▲ Whoa! Thanks for all the Wendys!

Kanagawa Prefecture,
Erika Yamaguchi



▲ Sisters who get along really well! Gives off a nice feeling!

Kanagawa Prefecture, Rii-chan



▲ Then what song did you like the best?

Osaka, Kyōka Ruzuki



▲ Brings back memories!! But he did show up recently, huh?

Saitama Prefecture, Tsubame



▲ And really quickly, these two show up again. Merudy's grown up a lot!

Hokkaido, Tomihide Tsuda



▲ Thanks for doing so much drawing!

Aichi Prefecture, Chika Goto



▲ Ah! I see you share an attraction to this character with Fairy Tail's director, Ishihira-san.

Saitama Prefecture, do it



▲ From Happy with love.

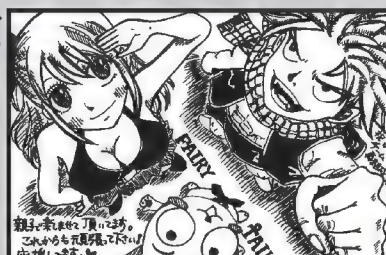
REJECTION CORNER

There's so much to harp on, and I really don't know what's going on!



Fukushima Prefecture, Ikuo Saito

It's always those three, huh?



Kanagawa Prefecture, Tenka

Hokkaido, Sarasa Kokubun



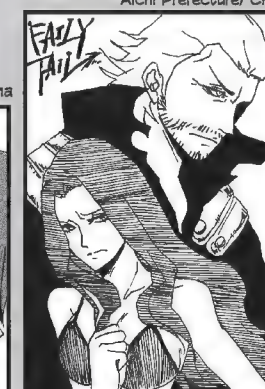
▲ They look good surrounded in black! Makes them look cool!

Saitama Prefecture, Miyana



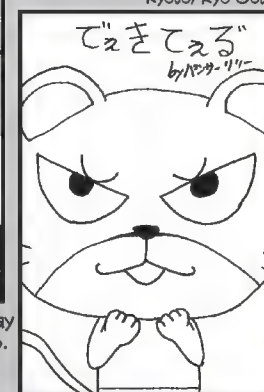
▲ What did you think when these two met again?

Aichi Prefecture, Chun



▲ Cara is finally able to say what she always wanted to. Great, huh?

Kyoto, Ryō Goto.



▲ Just who is Panther Lily saying, "You're so doing it," to?!

By sending in letters or postcards you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code and any other information you include to the author as is. Please keep that in mind.

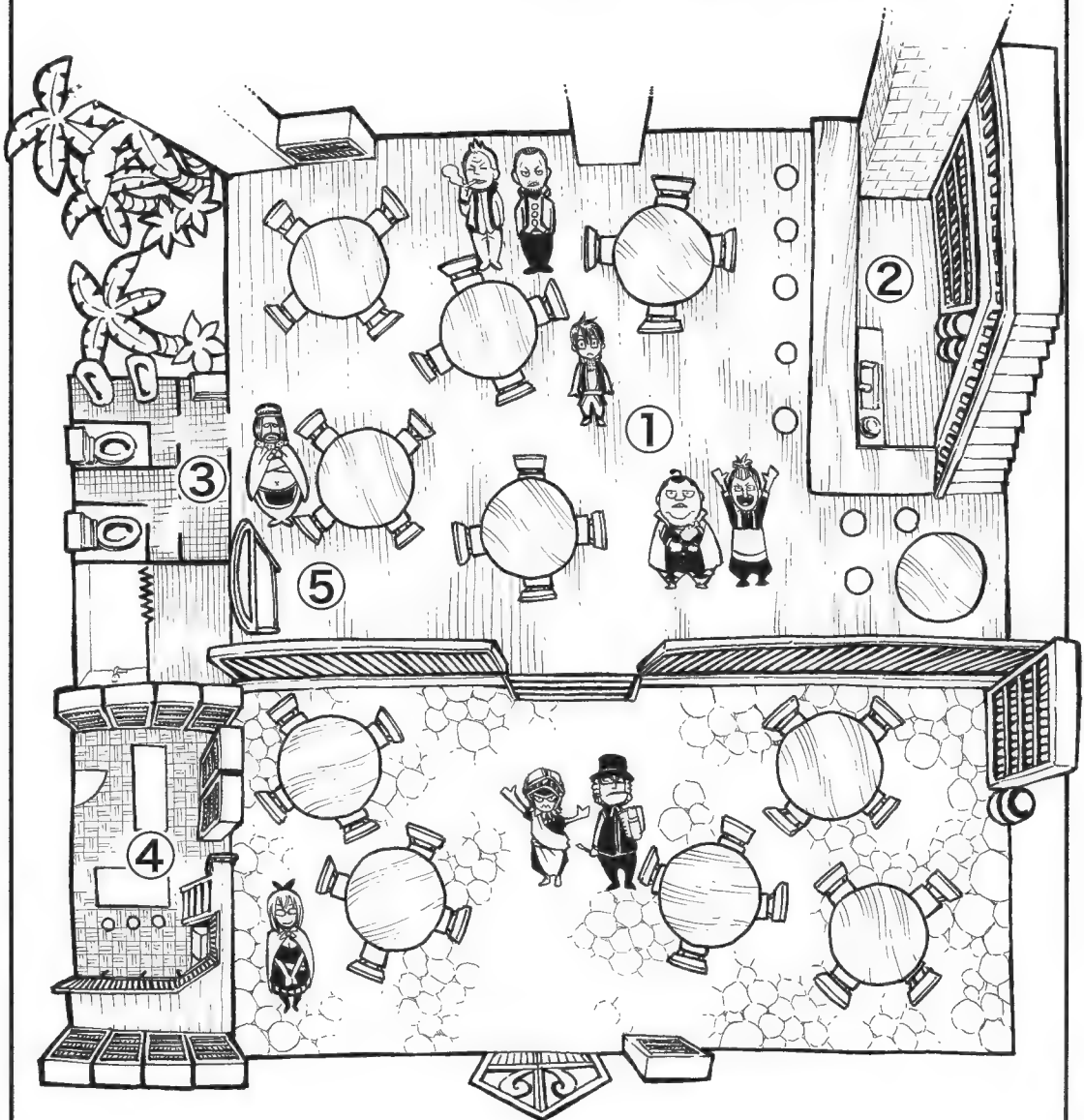
Ohh! Now that's cute!! Thanks for cheering me on!!



Osaka, Ayaka Inui

- 1) Bar Area
- 2) Bar Counter & Kitchen
- 3) Bathroom & shower
- 4) Store Room & Records Room
- 5) Request Board

NEW GUILD REPORT FAIRTAIL



Afterword

あとがき

The Grand Magic Games!!!! A festival! A festival! Heave-ho! Heave-ho! And so, although these are the same Natsu & crew who are always putting their lives on the line in their battles, this particular series will focus on them doing battle in order to reclaim the honor of their guild. At first, I thought of the Grand Magic Games as a simple battle tournament, but that's been done so many times, I discarded that idea. (Call me perverse.)

Personally, I just love those hot plot twists, but Fairy Tail, while being a battle manga, is also about the importance of the “bonds within the guild.” If this were just battles, that would make it hard to return to that theme. Of course there *will* be battles though. There will be combinations that seem really unusual and competitions that I always wanted to see. I'm planning all sorts of fun things! And more than anything, the character count outdoes anything in Fairy Tail history so far! The contestants and other major characters bring it to over 40 characters!!!! Really, it's a struggle to draw it every week, but it's so fun to draw that “festival” feeling! Up until now, we've had battles against bad people and dark guilds, but I want this story to give you a better view of the Fairy Tail world and all the various types of guilds that are in it.

FAIRY TAIL 31

Natsu

Erza



HIRO MASHIMA

Lucy



Gray



Natsu



FROM HIRO NASHIMA



I've got a bad feeling about this. With the Sirius Island story, I included an enormous number of characters, and really whined about drawing it. With the new storyline, I've got this really, really bad premonition. I couldn't be thinking of having, like, more than forty characters appearing, could I? I wonder if I'm going to survive this...

Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Page 26, Frosch

Frosch is the German word for frog. It also happens to be a German brand of household cleaner with a frog logo that was introduced in Japan about a year ago. Coincidence?

Page 76, Read this word

In the English language, it's common for words with odd spellings to be difficult to pronounce, but in Japanese, there are words made up of kanji where one does not remember (or never knew in the first place) how the word was pronounced. For those who don't know about the Japanese writing system, kanji are ideograms (pictograms look like what they describe whereas ideograms are symbols that may or may not look like what they represent) and as such don't automatically have a sound attached. In some other languages such as Chinese, each ideogram usually has only one pronunciation in any particular dialect, but in Japanese most have at least two and some have many, many more possible pronunciations. So it's not unusual for a fully educated adult to not know how an occasional word is pronounced, and it is very common for children Wendy's age to not know.



Page 104,

Lyra's song

Although this translator would not blame you if you didn't think the translated English lyrics were very poetic, please rest assured that the translation of the song took no liberties with the meaning in order to add some rhymes to it. The meaning of what

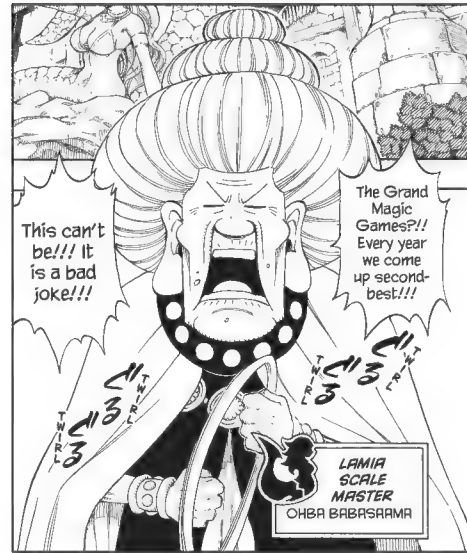
Lyra is singing here is almost identical to the meaning of the song in Japanese.



Page 112,

Ohba Babasaama

This character is an old woman, and her name reflects it. Ohba is a word that means “grandmother,” and baba is another word that means “grandmother” or “old lady.” The saama is probably a nod to the -sama honorific. A little later on the same page, Lyon refers to her as “Obaba,” which also means “grandmother” or “old lady.”



Page 116, Punishment

The position Virgo is demonstrating in that first panel on page 116 is a torture that was found in ancient Japan. A person is bound by their hands and feet, forced to sit seiza (with their shins tucked underneath their thighs) on a grated wooden board with sharp corners sticking up, and then weights are applied to the tops of their thighs. The corners bite into the person's sensitive shins as the weights press down on them. Generally if the victim was being tortured for information, resistance was met with more weight being applied to their thighs.



ATTACK on TITAN

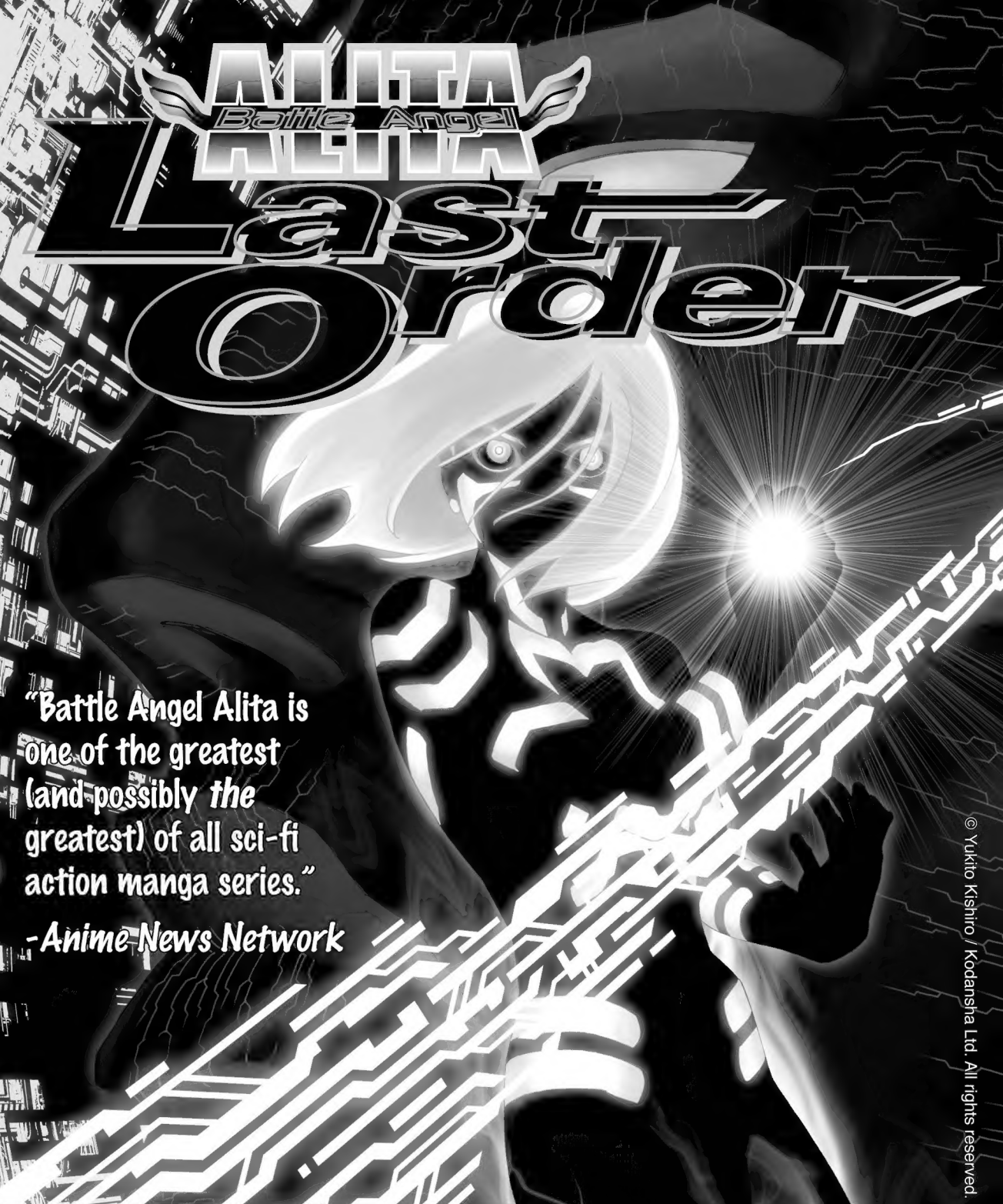


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Published in the United States by Kodansha Comics, an imprint of Kodansha USA Publishing, LLC, New York.

Publication rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

First published in Japan in 2012 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo
ISBN 978-1-61262-408-2

Printed in the United States of America.

www.kodanshacomics.com

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Lettering: AndWorld Design

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